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Sunday, July 28, 2013

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LOCAL



PHI Pharmacy celebrates 17 years of serving the CNMI.

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Skipping breakfast may increase your chances of a heart attack.

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LIFE & STYLE



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NMI may seek US congressional action on Pell grant issue. PAGE 3
Fund's DB members have 9 days to make final decision. PAGE 7

Military eyes 50-yr Saipan lease

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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 REPORTER

The U.S. military is eyeing at least a 50-year lease of lands within and around the Saipan airport and seaport covering some 33 acres for a U.S. Air Force alternative airfield on Saipan. CNMI officials, however, insist on having the divert airfield on Tinian, barely a few weeks before the release of a final environmental impact statement, officials confirmed with *Saipan Tribune*.

- » At least 33 acres of airport, seaport lands, plus historic sites
- » CNMI officials still press for US Air Force divert airfield on Tinian

have yet to be released, the U.S. Air Force's Legislative Liaison said the Air Force still prefers to build the divert airfield on Saipan and that "the phases cannot be separated between two different locations" such as Saipan and Tinian.

RELATED NEWS
 ► US military seeks expansion of restricted area at FDM. PAGE 2

Although the EIS and the Record of Decision

Some of the lands on Saipan that the military plans to lease are part of historic sites, including the pre-war Japanese airfield in As Lito.

Many of the Saipan lands being eyed for lease, however, are not being used right now.

Two-thirds of public lands on Tinian are already leased to the U.S. Department of Defense for 99 years.

"A planned 50-year land lease by the military on Saipan is something that the CNMI is carefully reviewing. There are legal questions, and questions about impacts on the commercial activities at the

See LEASE on Page 4

By MARK RABAGO
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 ASSOCIATE EDITOR

True to his word, writer P.F. Kluge pulled no punches in his presentation "Saipan Then, Saipan Now, Saipan Tomorrow" on Friday at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

In front of an eclectic audience of more than a hundred who paid the \$25 per head ticket for admission, the former Peace Corps volunteer reminisced and analyzed the past and present of the island and then attempted to prognosticate what its future holds.

He also touched base on the CNMI's tenuous relationship with Uncle Sam and at one point posed a question to the crowd whether the covenant with the U.S. was the right choice.

"What we have here is what a long-time Saipan resident told me is a living

See KLUGE on Page 4

MARK RABAGO

P.F. Kluge shares his anecdotes about the island during "Saipan Then, Saipan Now, Saipan Tomorrow" held Friday at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Kluge awaits Saipan's next phenomenon



'Up to 400 hotel rooms not up to par'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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 REPORTER

Editor's Note:
 This story is part of a continuing series of articles that examines the burgeoning tourism industry of the CNMI and the Commonwealth's ability to meet the demands of this growing market.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has disclosed that several hundreds hotel rooms in the Commonwealth are not up to par with industry standards and must be renovated at once to ensure that these assets do not deteriorate.

This could be done, he said, by taking advantage of the CNMI State Small Business Credit Initiative program that allows refinancing and investments on island. This is a federal program administered by

U.S. Department of Treasury that aims to strengthen state programs that support private financing to small businesses and small manufacturers.

Based on the latest government



inventory, of the 3,000 hotel rooms on Saipan, only over 2,000 are operating while the rest need improvements.

"We have total inventory of around 3,000 rooms yet we're only operating about 2,000 because there's a good number of hotel rooms not up to par to offer them to tourists," he said Wednesday.

Inos said the CNMI has reached a point of saturation on accommodation and the renovation of existing hotel rooms is one of its biggest challenges now.

In the last consecutive months, tourist arrivals have been showing double-digit growth, coupled by the high occupancy rates in hotels since the start of the fiscal year.

"That's good news and we're excited. We hope to see the stats to continue to

See HOTEL on Page 4

Local

US military seeks expansion of restricted area at FDM

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and other CNMI officials received Friday briefings from the U.S. military about the proposed expanded safety zones or "restricted area" in and around Farallon de Mendinilla which, for decades, has been the only live-fire training area in the CNMI despite longstanding environmental concerns from the local government.

The U.S. military also briefed local officials about Operation Forager Fury II, a planned military exercise that would bring up to 350 U.S. Marines to Tinian and Saipan later this year.

» Up to 350 US Marines for Forager Fury II on Tinian, Saipan later this year

sea space in the Mariana Islands Range Complex, or MIRC, specifically FDM.

MIRC refers to the areas surrounding the Marianas that are intermittently restricted due to U.S. military testing or training.

Specifically, DoD's proposed danger zone expansion from 10 nautical miles around FDM to 12 nautical miles "would re-

strict all private and commercial vessels from entering the area when, and only when, hazardous activities are scheduled."

DoD also proposes to extend the Restricted Area (R-7201) at FDM from 3 to 12 nautical miles, designate the new Restricted Area as R-7201A, and replace existing Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspace 1, 2, and 3, among other things.

The U.S. military said a thorough analysis of environmental resources determined that implementation of any of the

alternatives "result in no significant impact on or harm to public health and safety, transportation, regional economy, and recreation."

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and other CNMI officials, however, continued to raise concerns about this expanded restricted area at Farallon de Mendinilla.

"There are concerns about the impact on the local community as it relates to local fishermen and recreational uses. This is definitely an issue that the administration will actively discuss as it progresses," press secretary Angel Demapan said.

Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold Palacios told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that this proposed expanded restricted areas will further impede CNMI fishermen's access to waters in and around Farallon de Mendinilla.

"This will add to the loss of fishing access to FDM waters. But the NEPA process on this is not complete yet. I believe the [Federal Aviation Administra-

tion] would have the last word on this military proposal to expand restricted use. The CNMI would continue to bring this up to the attention of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The CNMI still has an opportunity to be heard," Palacios said.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) echoed the DLNR secretary's concerns, adding that Farallon de Mendinilla waters are a primary fishing ground within the CNMI.

Forager Fury II

On Friday, U.S. Marine Air

Group-12 executive officer Lt. Col. Thomas E. Frederick and Roy Tsustui, U.S. Defense coordinating officer, briefed the governor and other local officials about the upcoming military exercise called Operation Forager Fury II in December.

This is a follow up to the MAG-12 exercises on Tinian in 2012.

"We know it's going to be bigger than Forager Fury I," the press secretary said. "The administration is pleased to see that the intent of the Tinian land lease by the military is being put to use again."

"While this exercise will be in restricted field areas, the administration anticipates that there will be some time set aside for community projects and recreation. This would be good for the economy," he added.

Some 250 to 300 Marines will be on Tinian, while some 50 Marines will be on Saipan.

Don Farrell, the Tinian mayor's chief of staff and CNMI historian, said, "Tinian welcomes the return of Marine Air Group 12 this December."

He said this December, Operation Forager Fury II intends

See MILITARY on Page 4

Judge denies ex-cop's motion for acquittal

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has denied former police officer Martin I. Kapileo's motion to acquit him of five charges in connection with a vehicular hit-and-run case.

In a ruling issued Thursday, Camacho said a motion for judgment of acquittal is not proper when the court, rather than a jury, determines a verdict.

Citing *Commonwealth vs Ahn*, the judge noted that after rendering its verdict on 10 misdemeanor counts, the trial court indicated to the defendant that the court would deny a motion for judgment of acquittal or motion for reconsideration.

Camacho said the defendant in Ahn's case appealed, arguing that his due process rights were violated because he was denied "fair and impartial consideration of post-trial motions."

The judge said the District Court Appellate Division found the trial court did not abuse its

discretion and stated: "A Rule 29 motion tests the sufficiency of the evidence to sustain a conviction. It is used only in jury trials, and not in cases tried by the court, since to do so would be pointless."

Camacho said he is bound by Ahn's ruling until it is overruled or modified by the CNMI Supreme Court.

Following a three-day bench trial on July 1 to 3, Camacho found 50-year-old Kapileo guilty of failure to stop at the scene of an accident, restriction upon use of government vehicles, drinking alcohol while operating a vehicle, possession of an open container while operating a vehicle, and failure to exercise due care.

Camacho, however, found Kapileo not guilty of driving on the right side of the highway and driving under the influence of alcohol.

Kapileo, through counsel Brian Sers Nicholas, then filed a motion for judgment of acquittal.

Nicholas argued that the

government failed to meet its burden of proof beyond reasonable doubt.

Assistant attorney general Brian Flaherty, as counsel for the government, opposed the motion.

Camacho heard the motion on Wednesday.

Kapileo will be sentenced on Wednesday, July 31, at 1:30pm.

The incident happened in the afternoon of Oct. 27, 2012. Mayona S. Bergosa, 52, was walking on the grassy side of the road on Chalan Monsignor Guerrero in Kannat Tabla when a marked Department of Public Safety's vehicle driven by Kapileo hit her from behind. The truck's right side mirror hit Bergosa in the back of her head, causing her to lose consciousness for a moment.

Kapileo, however, did not stop until police officers chased him and pulled him over at Quartermaster Road. Police found that the defendant's 14-year-old son was a passenger of the truck.

Off-duty Coast Guardsman saves child's life

gle had mentioned in conversation to the attendants that he is in the Coast Guard.

Windnagle proceeded to revive the boy just before Guam Fire and Rescue crews arrived on scene to continue life support and transport the child to the hospital. The latest report is that the child is alert and responding.

"Everyone at the pool wanted to help, I just happened to be at the right place at the right time and with the knowledge to help... I thank my Coast Guard training and my experience with Women's Bay Fire Department in Kodiak, Alaska," said Wind-

nagle, and in his words, the pool attendant who initially spotted the child drowning was "the true hero."

Windnagle was here on a familiarity trip, as he just recently took position as Command Master Chief for the Coast Guard's District 14 region. He was traveling with the new District Commander, Rear Adm. Cari Thomas.

Thomas praised Windnagle's quick actions that saved the boy's life, stating "Master Chief epitomizes the Coast Guard's commitment and legacy of saving lives." (PR)

to conduct a Marianas Campaign at Leman Travel Service in June 2013.

A special summer campaign was held at the Leman Travel Service storefront located in a shopping mall. **Saipan-da** made an appearance, and giveaways were distributed to event visitors to liven up the event. The Marianas Campaign marks the first time JTB has conducted a campaign with a destination mascot.

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and JTB West has expressed interest in repeating the campaign aggressively this winter.

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Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
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JTB West Marianas Campaign

The Marianas Visitors Authority negotiated with JTB West in Japan

NMI may seek US congressional action on Pell grant issue

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The CNMI may seek congressional action on the potential loss of federal monies for the Northern Marianas College, according to Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

Inos disclosed that he met last week with NMC President Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., to seek further clarification and information about the issue so his administration could come up with a firm stance on the matter.

Although he was made aware of the planned policy decision to be made by the U.S. Department of Education, Inos said he wanted to make sure that all efforts are being done by the CNMI to prevent it from happening.

On Thursday, the governor appealed to the U.S. Department of Education on the agency's plan to render a policy decision that will stop NMC from receiving Pell grants due to a finding that the institution's dual accreditation violates the policy of the USDOE.

Inos hinted that if efforts to persuade the agency to reconsider become unsuccessful, his administration is thinking of elevating the matter to the U.S. Congress.

"I understand that the current effort is to try to get back to the USDOE not to impose the policy decision. So that's the current mode. If that fails, then I think we need to do something differ-

ent. We may probably elevate it to higher policy level, meaning we may seek a U.S. congressional action," said Inos.

The governor said the role of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) will be vital in this effort. "We will need his help on that regard."

He conceded, however, that seeking congressional action on the matter may also present some problems for the CNMI in terms of Pell grant awards.

"But again, when we do that, there's going to be another treatment for us as opposed to other territories [and] that could present some problems. For now, I just hope the USDOE does not take the hard position [on NMC]," added the governor.

A Pell grant is generally considered to be the foundation of a student's financial aid package, to which other forms of aid are added. It is sponsored by the USDOE and is not like a loan; it does not have to be repaid.

For many years, NMC has been receiving close to \$4 million in Pell grant, which it uses for both associate and degree programs. In February, the college was alerted by the accrediting commission on the USDOE's plan to render a policy decision on NMC after finding that the institution has dual accreditation with both senior and junior commission of WASC, which, according to USDOE,

Man, 65, gets 10 years in prison for sexually assaulting woman

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A 65-year-old man was slapped Friday with a 10-year prison term without parole for sexually assaulting a woman in front of her child.

At a change of plea hearing in Superior Court, Joaquin Reyes Lizama pleaded guilty to sexual assault in the second degree and assault and battery.

Lizama also admitted to violating his probation conditions in a previous criminal conviction.

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja accepted the plea agreement and the defendant's guilty plea. He sentenced the defendant to 11 years in prison, all suspended except for 10 years, to be served day to day without parole.

Lizama was given credit for the time he has already served in jail. After completing his sentence in 2023, he will be placed on five years' probation.

The defendant was ordered to pay a \$100 fine, \$100 court costs, and \$500 probation fee. He was required to register as a sex offender, undergo an HIV test, and participate in any required treatment by the Community Guidance Center or

is a violation of policy.

NMC's baccalaureate program, which started to receive Pell awards in 2001, will be potentially affected by the decision.

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KLUGE**From Page 1**

modern day cargo plane...every possible effort is made to get something for nothing except for some few ceremonial rituals like passing a resolution, signing a petition...and reluctantly I agree. Perhaps the smallness of the island encourages passivity. The fact that it has been coveted, fought over, killed for has added a sense of entitlement, a sense of the people deserve whatever they can get and you can't blame them."

Kluge went on to read a snippet from his book *Edge of Paradise* about Manny Muña, a politician of the old Congress of Micronesia who he says later drifted to the edge of politics as a legislative aide.

"In some ways he epitomized the Saipan of those days, smoking a cigar and driving one of the surplus jeeps that the Navy sold to the locals for \$1 per vehicle after the war. Sits down for coffee and gives me an update about himself. He drives a tourist taxi. His wife works at Duty Free. He keeps himself busy. He has some Filipinos farming down in Kagman and the agricultural extension service is planting pine trees there at no charge. If the United States can give money to countries that don't like America then they can give money to Manny Muña, a great and wise man."

Working for well-known publications like *Readers Di-*

gest and *Wall Street Journal*, Kluge interviewed the likes of Ben Fitial, Escolastica Cabrera, Ted Foxborough, Guy Gabaldon, and Lino Olopai.

"I tried to reach some kind of conclusion. They are the envy of the Pacific. They are America and they are rich and they did it without moving and did it without working. Part of me wanted to say 'fine, let it be.' They are good people and being on the island is there is so much of it to love—the pine tree-lined invasion beaches, the backfield boondocks, and the shell-scarred cliffs. I love the weddings and baptisms, those long tables of rice and roast pork, breadfruit, taro, chicken, coconut, sashimi with salt pepper and soya, cucumbers with ginger, soup from taro greens. I love the bars and bullshit. I love the sunsets I love the place. So I said 'what the hell?' It's probably a corrupting unhealthy relationship. A questionable commitment but we have worse ways of spending money in worse places. It's the Manny Muña story. If you're going to squander taxes you might as well spend it on islands like these. If you're gonna pass out U.S. citizenships for the sake of holding on to some possibly strategic islands, why not pass them out here to my old friends."

Kluge, however, was less forgiving of the current state of Saipan, especially following the demise of the once booming garment industry.

"This island, large parts of

it, looks awful. One ruin, one failure, one abandoned building after another along Beach Road and Middle Road. Seeing the hotels, factories, and barracks makes you think what went on here, what mistakes, what miscalculations, what broken dreams? It's heartbreaking. I think more damage physically has been done to the islands during its time as a commonwealth than the term of the admittedly feeble and misguided Trust Territory government."

One side-trip to inner villages, where he saw abandoned and unkempt houses, reminded him of a quote from the Russian writer Anton Chekhov, "If each one of us on his own piece of land would do everything he could, how lovely our planet would be."

Kluge also doesn't think the formula of the four G's—government, garments, gambling, and GIs—leading the way toward progress should continue.

"They don't put people to productive work on their own land. It's just people sort of accepting fee and rewards for being Saipanese."

Despite its flaws, Kluge remains forever in love with the islands. "I find the people here as likeable or even more likeable than ever and also thoughtful...because they had their boom and they had their bust and that ought to induce thought and I think from my reading the newspapers that people are thinking of making serious changes."

Part of his continuing fascina-

tion with the islands is finding the next phenomenon that ultimately will happen.

"Who would've forecasted Larry Hillbloom? Who would've forecasted Russian tourists? These things are unperceivable. History keeps showing up here. That's what differentiates it from the other islands."

A close friend once told him that, if given a second chance, the people of the CNMI would've opted for a looser and terminable relationship with the U.S., akin to what the Federated State of Micronesia got 30 years ago. He remains unconvinced with that argument, however, especially since in his eyes, the islands are at a unique crossroads of being part of America and also being part of the Pacific.

"You deal with issues of immigration more intimately than the U.S. does. Everyday you struggle with that. You struggle with healthcare. So do we. You worry about the purpose and the cost of education. So do we."

He also joked that Saipan is also ahead of the U.S. in a lot of way. "Your gas costs more than us, so you're ahead of us..."

"I'm beginning to convince myself that if I went to another planet and wanted to know how America had been during my absence I don't have to go to California or Washington. I would be able to know everything on Saipan and I would be ahead of the game. This really is where America's day begins

and ends. As a visitor, not a resident, not a voter, not an investor, I can't promise not to return. There is just too much happening here and too much at stake and I regard everyday that I stay on this island as a great gift."

He said that coming to the islands intermittently the past 40 years is like going to heaven.

"I love the friendships here, the conversations, the discovery, the rediscovery, and the honest differences of opinion. My idea of heaven is on a street

somewhere and everyday I meet someone I like and lost touch of and haven't seen them a long time. And I get to go with them in a bar and say how's your life turned out, really...and that happens to me on Saipan, all the time."

Kluge is writer-in-residence at Kenyon College in Gambier Ohio. In addition to numerous books, he has written articles for national publications including *Rolling Stone*, *Playboy*, and *National Geographic*.

capital programs.

For the CNMI, the U.S. Treasury approved \$13.1 million to be utilized until March 2017. The amount is broken down as follows: \$4.6 million for loan purchase and \$8.5 million for cash collateral support program.

Besides helping with hotel rooms' renovations, Inos disclosed that the government is also gearing up for the construction of more hotels on island. He announced that the Department of Public Lands recently closed bid on three major public lands.

The governor said that he has instructed the Marianas Visitors Authority to work with the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands on bringing the hundreds of unused rooms online.

"MVA is working with HANI to try to bring them up to standards. We'd like to ask these folks to access the special money under the SBCDI program, which has \$13 million available for financing and investment," according to Inos.

He said that 300 to 400 hotel rooms could probably be put online if the government could assist the owners with their renovations. SBCDI money, he said, is not limited to renovation work but could also be used in furnishing rooms.

"We would like to see the construction of new hotels because we're needing additional rooms. We also need to upgrade the condition of [other] existing rooms to a level where we can really present them to tourists," he said.

According to Inos, the government is pinning its hope on the reconstruction and reopening of two big hotels next year.

He was alluding to Palms Resort Saipan, which he said could probably be up and running again by end of 2014, and the reopening of Coral Ocean Point, which is expected to happen summer next year.

medical-dental services.

"Many of our local residents will enjoy an early Christmas present, thanks to Navy and Marine Corps medical personnel," he said. "Operation Geiger Fury, May 2012, was a tremendous success, benefiting equally the United States Marine Corps, the people of Tinian and the CNMI."

"MAG - 12 honed its expeditionary combat skills. Their objective was to land on Tinian, as if they were landing on an island in Indonesia or the southern Philippines, clear an overgrown, isolated runway and land C-130 Hercules aircraft, as if they were landing combat troops in a forward area. While doing so, they spent two pay periods integrating with the local community, purchasing goods and services from local vendors," Farrell said.

LEASE**From Page 1**

airport, the environment and mitigation, historic sites and social impacts," Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold Palacios told *Saipan Tribune* when sought for comment yesterday.

Palacios, along with other officials, said the CNMI, particularly the Commonwealth Ports Authority and the Department of Public Lands, has not decided yet on any military plan to lease Saipan lands.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, in responding to *Saipan Tribune* questions yesterday, said the administration would like further discussion on this with all the stakeholders, "including the people of the Commonwealth and most especially the residents of Koblerville and Dandan."

"There is no commitment at this point. The administration will exercise due diligence in any discussion of this nature to ensure that the concerns of the community are prioritized before a final decision is made," Demapan said.

As to whether Covenant 902 talks could be invoked, Demapan said, "All options are on the table at this time."

Palacios said a lot of questions were raised during last week's briefings, including the continued insistence to put a

divert airfield on Saipan rather than on Tinian, but the military representatives who met with CNMI officials were not in a position to answer many of those questions.

Other questions included whether CPA or the CNMI people want to lock down expansion of the Saipan airport for 50 years, and who and how will the decision to lease these lands be made, and whether the Legislature, for example, would have a role in this.

The military has yet to formally request a 50-year lease at this time but already briefed the CNMI about the plan last week.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) separately said yesterday that CNMI officials still prefer a divert airfield on Tinian, and that it's time for the United States to honor its commitment to develop Tinian.

"When they leased the lands on Tinian, there was an understanding they would invest in developing the island for the military and for the local economy. If you go back to the Covenant, the United States still has not lived up to its commitment to develop Tinian. Here is an opportunity for them to do so," the speaker said.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and other CNMI officials, including his Cabinet members and lawmakers, received briefings from the U.S. Pacific Air Forces or PACAF representatives on the

divert airfield and other issues on Thursday but some details were kept under wraps for days, including the military's 50-year lease plan.

PACAF oversees all U.S. Air Force commands in the Pacific region.

Among the PACAF representatives in the briefings were Carol Guadette, Christine, Pascurus, and Robert Cambell. They provided a follow-up brief to the CNMI Military Integration Management Committee, which is composed of CNMI leaders and various department heads, of the divert airfield project's status.

Outgoing MIMC coordinator Jose P. Mafras Jr. told reporters last week that it was "strictly an informative briefing. No decisions were made."

The governor and other local officials received a different set of military briefings the following day. *See related story on Page 2.*

Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio, who was also at the briefings, said yesterday that CPA owns the lands that the military plans to lease.

Tenorio, a member of the Marianas Political Status Commission that negotiated the Covenant that established the relationship between the Northern Marianas and the United States, also said the United States has the right under the Covenant to lease lands, and that negotiation to lease lands applies without

902 talks.

Still, some officials are wary about the impact of leasing acres of lands to the U.S. military outside of Tinian.

Pagan in the Northern Islands is also being eyed for the U.S. military's live-fire training areas, in addition to Farallon de Mendinilla.

The CNMI, however, is weighing its options. On one hand, it supports the U.S. military's moves to strengthen its readiness capabilities but at the same time, it does not want significant socio-economic impacts.

Palacios and Deleon Guerrero said that based on the briefings they received, the U.S. Air Force plans to build a fuel tank, maintenance hangar, additional parking areas for tankers, and a munitions storage area, among other things.

Both reiterated that investing in the construction of these facilities would benefit Tinian more.

Saipan is the "preferred Alternative 1" for a divert or contingency airfield for the U.S. Air Force in the western Pacific in the event that access to Guam's Andersen Air Force Base is limited or denied.

The divert airfield final EIS is scheduled for release sometime August 2013 and the Record of Decision will follow 30 days after. More information on the divert EIS is available at www.pacafdivertmarijanaseis.com.

and ends. As a visitor, not a resident, not a voter, not an investor, I can't promise not to return. There is just too much happening here and too much at stake and I regard everyday that I stay on this island as a great gift."

He said that coming to the islands intermittently the past 40 years is like going to heaven.

"I love the friendships here, the conversations, the discovery, the rediscovery, and the honest differences of opinion. My idea of heaven is on a street

HOTEL**From Page 1**

grow. But of course we have limitations...and we're reaching a point of saturation on the accommodation. Folks want to bring in more flights but we need to look at our accommodation...and that's our big challenge now," Inos told *Saipan Tribune*.

The governor said that he has instructed the Marianas Visitors Authority to work with the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands on bringing the hundreds of unused rooms online.

"I'm beginning to convince myself that if I went to another planet and wanted to know how America had been during my absence I don't have to go to California or Washington. I would be able to know everything on Saipan and I would be ahead of the game. This really is where America's day begins

902 talks.

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MILITARY**From Page 2**

to clear runways Able, Charlie and Delta, along with connecting taxiways.

"Because the challenge is larger, there will be more Marines on the ground. That translates into a larger financial infusion to our local businesses. Most of the men participating in Forager Fury II were not part of the group that landed in May 2012. A new group of Marines will have the opportunity to train for expeditionary activities, and to integrate with our community," Farrell told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said MAG 12 is already in communication with Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, planning community relations projects for the December visit, including

2 ex-convicts on probation admit to ‘ice’ use

Two ex-convicts on federal probation have admitted to using methamphetamine or “ice” again, allegedly to fight stress.

This has resulted in Daniel M. Quitugua and Francisco Nakatsukasa Basa being summoned to the U.S. District Court for the NMI to explain why their probation should not be revoked.

Probation officer Gregory F. Arriola disclosed in separate petitions filed in court last week that part of the mandatory probation conditions is that Quitugua and Basa shall refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled substance.

Arriola said that Quitugua reported to the U.S. Probation Office on June 10, 2013, after admitting to drug use at the Marianas Counseling Services during a drug test on June 9, 2013.

Arriola said that Quitugua explained that he and his girlfriend had gotten into an argument, resulting in her moving out of his house. Quitugua stated that he was stressed out by the situation and used “ice.”

Quitugua was convicted for his role in an armed robbery at Capital Poker in Sadog Tasi on April 29, 2004. Although the two robbers failed to get any money from the establishment, Quitugua’s companion shot and injured the security guard and a cashier.

Quitugua completed his 120-month prison term. He supervision began on Jan. 4, 2013.

In May 2013, the federal court placed Quitugua un-

der home detention for three months after he tested positive for “ice” use during a random drug test.

In Basa’s case, Arriola said that he visited Basa at his house on June 25, 2013, and submitted him to a urinalysis test. The test was presumptive positive for “ice” use. Basa denied using drugs.

The urine sample was sent to a laboratory for confirmation. On July 3, 2013, Arriola said, the laboratory report came out and confirmed positive for “ice.”

When confronted with the results, Arriola said, Basa admitted to using “ice” on June 25, 2013, when a former drug acquaintance offered it to him. Basa agreed to perform 75 hours of community service and promised to refrain from further use of illegal drugs.

Arriola said that, on July 15, 2013, Basa submitted to a drug test conducted by Marianas Counseling Services and again tested presumptive positive for “ice.”

Basa allegedly admitted using “ice” on the morning of July 15 because he was experiencing stress.

In 2006, the federal court sentenced Basa to four years and six months in prison after being convicted of conspiracy to distribute 50 grams of “ice.” He was placed on probation after serving his sentence.

On Jan. 11, 2011, the federal court modified Basa’s probation to include three months of home confinement because he pleaded guilty to beating up his common-law wife and ad-

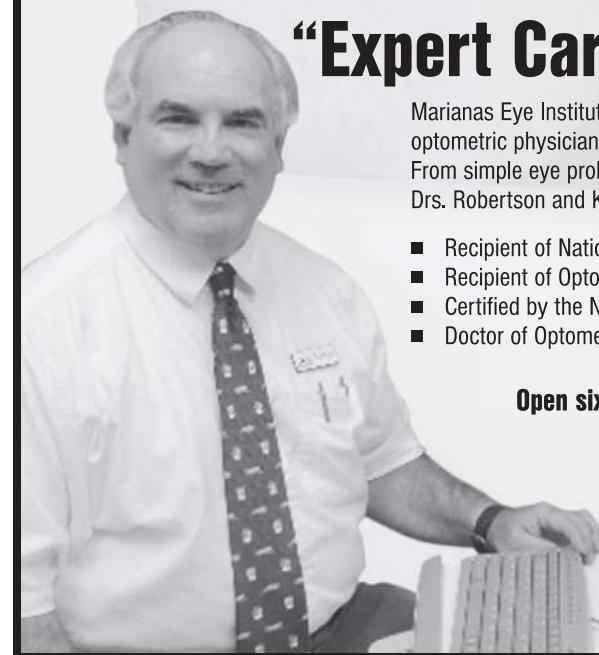
mitted to using “ice.”

On Aug. 3, 2012, the court revoked his probation due to “ice” use and other violations.

(Ferdie de la Torre)

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Public Notice to the General Public

The Republican Party of the Northern Mariana Islands Association is calling for a general membership meeting on July 31, 2013, at 6:00PM at the Garapan Central Park.

Agenda

1. Election of Officers
2. Miscellaneous

/s/ Rita Chong – Dela Cruz
1st Vice President

TOC receives \$5,000 donation from Docomo Pacific

Docomo Pacific recently presented a \$5,000 donation, composed of a combination of cash and raffles prizes, to the organizers of the Tournament of Champions, which will be held this weekend on Aug. 3 and 4.

"Docomo Pacific is excited to be taking part in one of the most exciting tournaments of the CNMI, especially given the growing popularity of the event in the region," said Docomo Pacific general manager James Nelson. "More importantly, the event benefits many important community projects, which makes this a win-win situation for all."

"We are very grateful to Docomo Pacific and its continued support over the years," said tournament director Ben Babauta. "The donation contributes significantly to the

excitement and success of the golf tournament."

According to Babauta, about 200 golfers are expected for the 18th Tournament of Champions, which will be played at the LaoLao Bay Golf and Resort's east and west courses.

Babauta stressed that the two-day event is bigger and better than ever with exciting hole-in-one prizes and the chance to win thousands of dollars in possible prizes.

First place winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior and Super Senior Flights will each receive \$500 cash, \$400 for second, \$300 for third, a digital camera to fourth, and \$100 DFS gift certificate for fifth place. The Ladies Low Gross champion will receive \$500, \$400 for second, and \$300 for third place. The first, second, and third place winners



Docomo manager James Nelson, second from right, and other Docomo representatives present a \$2,500 cash donation and \$2,500 in-kind donation to Ben Babauta, third from right, tournament director for the Tournament of Champions Golf Tournament, which is happening this week on Aug. 3 and 4.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

of the Ladies Low Net will receive a trophy.

There are hundreds of thousands of dollars of possible prizes at stake in the two-day tournament, including hole-in-one prizes on both the east and west courses that include a Hyundai Accent from Triple J Motors, Ford Fiesta from Joeten Motors, one year of free golf from Saipan Laolao, two business

class tickets to the U.S. from Delta, a business class ticket to Europe and other non-U.S. destinations from Asiana Airlines, and many more.

The tournament will also be featuring \$1,000 cash prizes for closest to pin competitions.

Registration for the 2-day tournament is \$185, which includes a lunch banquet on the second day. Registration forms

can be downloaded from www.tocsaipan.com. Register before 12pm on Friday, Aug. 2, 2013, by submitting registration form and registration fee at the first floor of DFS Galleria (next to Foreign Currency counter) or at Saipan Laolao. For more information about the event, contact Babauta at 483-2563 or Marida Pensader at 236-2530. (TOC)

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Fund's DB members have 9 days to make final decision

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Defined benefit members of the government pension program who have yet to submit refund applications since last year are being given the chance to do so after the NMI Retirement Fund announced that it is giving these members nine days to make their decision.

"Since there is a tentative agreement between Betty Johnson and the government, the Fund is informing all [defined benefit] members that they have now nine calendar days from July 29, 2013, to make their decision whether or not to terminate their membership in the Fund and withdraw their employee contributions," the Fund statement said.

For members who have already elected to end their mem-

bership with the Fund by withdrawing their contributions, their decision stands based on their refund applications filed last year.

Based on the agency's records, a total of 1,738 defined benefit members have already submitted refund applications, of which only over 90 have received payments to date.

The Fund is expected to disburse the refunds checks after the status hearing in court on Aug. 5 and 6.

Although the Fund cannot immediately say how much all this refunds would cost, the agency is convinced that the to-

tal refund figure will not exceed the \$110 million the court earlier set aside for active members.

Based on unaudited figures, the Fund's portfolio is valued at \$172.2 million as of June 30, 2013.

All active and inactive defined benefit members were advised by the Fund on April 10, 2013, about the withdrawal of their employee contributions as contemplated by Public Law 17-82, as amended by P.L. 18-2.

Because the parties in *Johnson v. Inos, et. al* were pursuing settlement discussions, the court then suspended the disburse-

ment of refunds. Settlement talks are nearing completion and the parties have agreed to a tentative agreement.

In order for defined benefit members to make an informed decision, the Fund provided some information about the settlement agreement as authorized by the parties. The Fund reminded members that the

proposed settlement agreement allows for a 25-percent benefit cut in retiree payments for all members in the settlement class.

This means, for example, that a retiree entitled to receive \$1,000 a month in pension will now receive \$750. The government, for its part, has agreed to substantially increase the amount of money it provides to the settlement fund.

Forms for electing to terminate by withdrawal pursuant to Public Law 17-82 can be obtained at the Fund's offices on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota or they may download from the Fund's website at www.retirement.com. Any questions about the process may be asked in person at the Fund's offices or by calling 322-2863 Ext. 64.

Possible traffic diversions for road project

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the public of road restoration construction on Chalan Msgr. Martinez Road across the Chalan Kiya Mobil gas station and in Dandan across the Shell gas station.

Road restoration in Dandan will begin today, July 29, 2013, and Tuesday, July 30, 2013, across the Mobil gas station

in Chalan Kiya. CUC kindly ask the public to plan ahead in their travel and exercise caution around the construction areas.

For further questions or concerns call CUC's 24-Hour Call Center at (670) 664-4282. (CUC)

Saipan Tribune

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the Fund on April 10, 2013, about the withdrawal of their employee contributions as contemplated by Public Law 17-82, as amended by P.L. 18-2.

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Group wants NMI's undocumented aliens included in immigration bill

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Marianas chapter of the US Pinoys for Good Governance wants undocumented aliens in the CNMI included in the immigration bill pending in the U.S. House

of Representatives.

The U.S. Senate recently passed its version of a comprehensive immigration bill that includes provisions for legal CNMI workers in the Commonwealth. However, it doesn't include undocumented aliens in the measure despite pro-

viding a pathway to citizenship to 11 million or so illegal aliens in the U.S. mainland.

USP4GG chair Dr. Cecila Lamkin said their petition urges the U.S. House to consider proposed amendments to the Section 2109 of S. 744 and is addressed to House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH).

"Under the CNMI provision, undocumented aliens in the CNMI are not included in the 11 million undocumented in the mainland U.S. who will have pathway to citizenship for those who arrived on or before Dec. 31, 2011. As a background, most of the undocumented aliens in the CNMI arrived legally as foreign contract workers who have worked for long years, some for more than 20 years," the petition reads.

The closure of 34 garment factories in 2009 resulted in the decline of the CNMI economy and many of its nonresident workers, who were the backbone of the local economy, became unemployed, resulting in the loss of lawful status.

"However, if they will be given the opportunity to be legalized, definitely, they will positively contribute to the development and economy of the CNMI because their skills, education, knowledge, and expertise are still needed," reads part of the petition.

Also included in the proposed amendment is the removal of the five-year waiting period be-

fore applying for green card for those who have worked legally for 10 years.

"It should be replaced with a pathway to citizenship for those aliens, with or without U.S. citizen children, who have been working legally in the CNMI on or before May 8, 2008, or after or five years residency prior to the approval of the immigration reform law," she said.

According to the petition, the five-year waiting period also carries a lot of uncertainties.

"Some might not be renewed under their employer's discretion; others will not be renewed due to unavoidable financial situation of the company, among others. Thus, we are proposing to delete this provision."

To this end USP4GG has initiated a signature campaign to urge the U.S. House to include undocumented aliens in the CNMI in the comprehensive immigration bill U.S. President Barrack Obama is championing.

USP4GG held its first signature campaign and immigration forum last Saturday and again yesterday at the Minatchom Attdao Pavilion in Susupe. The organization will resume their activities next weekend, Aug. 3 and 4, from 1pm to 4pm at the same venue.

Lamkin said those who would like to support and sign the petition can go to Island Florals and Gifts across Kanoa Resort and look for USP4GG member Nancy Baldoz or USP4GG volunteer Marie Balleros.

She also emphasized that there are no fees or collection of money involved in this petition.



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



Public Notice - Regular Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT that the Advisory Board of Trustees of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Conference Room #3, Lower Navy Hill, Saipan to consider the following agenda. Public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Public Comments
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
 - June 13, 2013 minutes
- IV. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**
 - A. CEO – Tinian Health Center Coverage; Physician Recruitment; Medical Staff By-Laws; Procurement of Equipment; DOI/HHS Financial Assistance; ICS
 - B. IT Manager – Board Portal
- V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. CMS Corrective Action Plan Update
 - B. Compensation Plan & Salary Increases
 - C. Performance Plan (All Operating Units)
- VII. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. The Affordable Care Act (Obamacare)
 - B. Nursing Department
 - Immigration
 - Skills Assessment & Staffing
 - C. CHCC Strategic Plan
- VIII. EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION**
 - Litigation Update
 - Experimental Therapy
 - Indigent Care
 - CEO/CFO Recruitment Update
- IX. MISCELLANEOUS**
 - A. Next Meeting
 - B. Adjournment



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Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 29, 2005

PSS to get \$150K only

Of the \$610,000 that the Public School System needs to repair schools and function up to September, the Department of Finance could only come up with a fourth of that amount-\$150,000-which will be issued to PSS on Monday. Board of Education board chair Roman C. Benavente told the Saipan Tribune yesterday that Gov. Juan N. Babauta, together with Finance Secretary Fermin Atalig, promised to release the funds on Monday. BOE vice chair Dino Jones and secretary and treasurer Marja Lee Taitano joined Benavente in a two-hour discussion with Babauta at the Governor's Office. "We had to ask for the money," said Benavente.

'No appropriation, no surcharge repeal'

Saying that keeping the lights on is non-negotiable, Gov. Juan N. Babauta has no choice but to disapprove today a bill that proposes to repeal the fuel surcharge law, press secretary Peter A. Callaghan said yesterday. "The Legislature has not appropriated funds. Now, it's either we keep it [fuel surcharge] or turn the lights off. That's the choice we're facing. If we can't buy fuel, the generators will stop running," he said. The government said that the existing 3.5 cents per kilowatt hour fuel surcharge gives CUC \$1 million a month, which the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. uses to buy fuel. CUC said it spends \$2 million to \$2.4 million a month for fuel.

July 29, 2006

House OKs \$193M budget

The House of Representatives yesterday passed an appropriation bill that would cut government spending by nearly \$20 million. Members of the Lower House voted 10-7 to approve House Bill 15-158, which sets a \$193.5 million spending limit for fiscal year 2007. This represents a 10-percent decrease from the \$212.4-million budget on which the CNMI government has been operating since 2003. In line with the 10-percent overall budget cut, H.B. 15-158 seeks to reduce the government workforce from 5,180 to only 4,904 full time employees.

Legislature overrides Fitial veto

The Legislature yesterday overrode the governor's veto of two separate reinstating the mining permit of JG Sablan Rock Quarry and capping government liability in tort claims. The Upper House voted unanimously in favor of the veto override. The House of Representatives immediately followed suit, voting 14-3 to overturn the governor's decision on both bills. Both measures become law as a result of the legislative action. Senate Floor Leader Felix Mendiola, author of the JG Sablan measure, maintained that the mining permit should be reinstated for several reasons. Tracing the JG Sablan's history on Pagan from 1992, Mendiola noted that extensions and amendments had been made to the original mining permit partly because government recognized the company's need for time to prepare and secure financing.

July 29, 2007

PSS principals, managers to teach classes full-time

For the first time in many years, public school principals and administrators will be performing double duty this coming school year: running their schools and teaching classes full-time. This has come about because the cash-strapped Public School System does not have enough money to hire the complete number of teachers it needs to man the schools. Due to the lack of teachers, some schools such as Garapan Elementary School will be closing one kindergarten class and six other rooms. Education Commissioner David M. Borja broke the bad news to public school principals and other administrators during a special meeting held yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club's Napu Room.

Head Start anniversary bash draws hundreds

The 40th anniversary celebrations for the CNMI Head Start Program drew at least a hundred people yesterday for a day of reminiscing and fun. Head Start Program staff and delegates, together with some daycare centers and early childhood development centers on Saipan, began the whole-day affair with a parade at 8:30am that started from the Gilbert C. Ada gym to the Civic Center in Susupe. Saipan Southern High School Junior ROTC Color Guards led the posting of colors before the ceremony began. Most of the morning program was taken up by speeches of different guests and speakers, while the afternoon segment focused on entertainment and fun.

Yvette Bennett starts fund drive for 2013 Miss Idaho USA pageant

Saipan-born Yvette Bennett is continuing her dream to win a national beauty title but she needs her home islands' help one more time to compete in the Miss Idaho USA pageant.



Bennett

title of my dreams by competing once again! As a contestant I have to raise a certain amount of money for my entrance fee, advertisement spot for the pageant magazine, and wardrobe expenses," Bennett said in a message posted in an online fundraising website.

Ambrose said his daughter needs all the help she can get, especially funding-wise, as beauty contestants today are judged to a large degree by their ability to raise money and generate supporters over the Internet.

Bennett, the 2013 Miss Idaho International who finished in the Top 15 and won the spirit award in last month's 2013 Miss USA International pageant in Florida, said she has a personal goal to raise \$495 by Aug. 2. (Mark Rabago)

"I will be a contestant in the 2014 Miss Idaho USA pageant this November. I competed last year and got first runner-up. Now I'm trying to win the

title of my dreams by competing once again! As a contestant I have to raise a certain amount of money for my entrance fee, advertisement spot for the pageant magazine, and wardrobe expenses," Bennett said in a message posted in an online fundraising website.

Bennett, the 2013 Miss Idaho International who finished in the Top 15 and won the spirit award in last month's 2013 Miss USA International pageant in Florida, said she has a personal goal to raise \$495 by Aug. 2. (Mark Rabago)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy birthday to Kimberly "Kimmy/Kimster" Camacho! Today is your special day, so enjoy it with laughter and fun! In other words, cheers to being young! Wishing you the best in so many ways! We love you so much and God bless! Greetings coming out from your MÅGÅS-Kai'po Francisco and the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday to Elise Divine, who celebrated here special day on Sunday, July 28, 2013.

Wishing you the best and may you have a rocking year ahead!

We love you! Greetings coming out from Mom, Dad, Codi, Aeyanna, and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 9th birthday to Queen Anne H. Rectitud! We couldn't believe how swiftly time has passed, you're such a big girl now! May you still continue to be a good girl! We love you! Love, Papa, Mommy, and Louis.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy 4th birthday to Hailey Shae F. Benavente, who celebrated here special day on Sunday, July 28, 2013! Hope your day was filled with lots of love and continued blessings. Greetings coming out from Mom, Dad, your brother Tayshawn, the family, and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

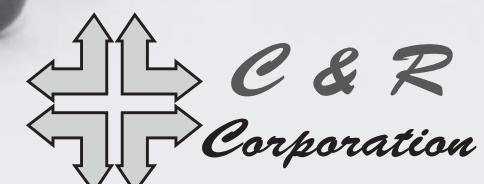
Happy 17th Anniversary!



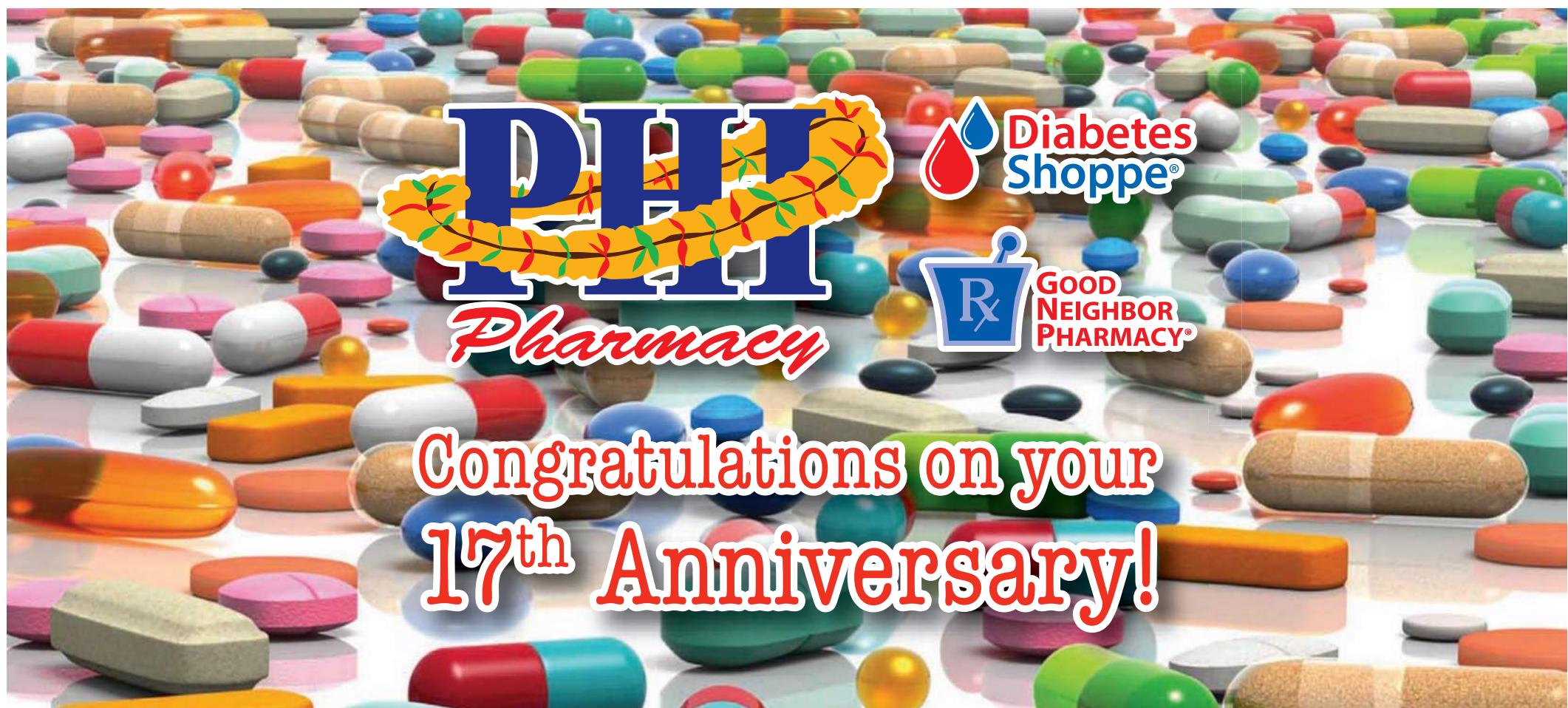
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Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Remembering the forgotten war

The following editorial appeared in the Seattle Times on Friday, July 26:

Sixty years ago Saturday was the day a silent, brusque signing of an armistice treaty ended a bloody stalemate in Korea after 37 months.

President Obama led the nation in commemorating the moment at a Saturday morning ceremony, called Heroes Remembered, at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington.

The Korean War began as a United Nations police action, pitting U.S. forces and allies against communist North Koreans, backed by China and the Soviet Union. The police action, the Korean conflict, did not become the Korean War until a congressional designation in 1998.

Historian James Wright, writing in the July issue of *The Atlantic* magazine, reminds us the reference to a Forgotten War dates back decades, and is not about contemporary lapses of memory.

Ambivalence over entry into the conflict, its bloody path and its amorphous ending in a military and diplomatic tie shovved it aside.

The war is fresh in the minds of those who lost loved ones and colleagues among the 36,574 U.S. troops killed in fighting. Other military and civilian losses soared into the millions.

The Veterans Affairs Department reports that 2.3 million of the 5.7 million U.S. service members in uniform around the globe between 1950 and 1953 are still alive.

The Korean campaign, as Wright points out, established a pattern repeated over the next six decades, of undeclared wars, inconsistent or unclear military goals, affiliations with undemocratic regimes, undependable military allies, and little political and domestic consensus on the missions and investment of young lives.

The inconclusive end of the Korean War rankled military leaders, and if the civilian population did not forget the war, it was not dwelled upon. The country wanted to move on.

The legacy of the war, which includes a commitment of 28,000 troops in South Korea, is the bravery of the men and women who answered the call to duty. They served with distinction and their service was remembered and saluted on Saturday.

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Yes, we scan

The irony has been pointed out widely, that Edward Snowden, the whistleblower of NSA's recording of our communications, is charged with espionage when his revelation essentially shows an NSA recording everyone's transmitted discourse.

China, whose governance is very centralized, is accused of hacking into everyone's database for commercial advantage, if not military espionage. What has become obvious is the naiveté to think that governments will refrain from doing something that they can do. In fact, what is possible is done. Period.

A challenge on governance today, local and global, civil and military, is the degree of transparency in operations so as to leave citizens comfortable with the action of those who represent them or perform things on their behalf.

Increasingly, even in historically docile populations, local voices want to be heard, and local initiatives are not waiting for official permission.

Those who kept their ears to the ground in the '60s, the rise of local human became a global occurrence, along with the refusal of urban youth to defer their participation in the decision-making process that affected their lives, the engagement of women who finally made clear they "hold half of the sky," of education that was grounded on experience rather than memorized abstractions, the role of global business to transcend boundaries and labor's demands to share in the equity of profits, the assertions of Third World countries to chart their destinies separate from former colonial directions, and the fist-raised claims of minorities to sit at the roundtable of political affairs. These are images in line with the Magnificent Seven tale of Kurosawa of the '50s and a Western remake in the '60s!

Xinjiang and Xizang in China challenge its predominantly Han administration to deal authentically with ethnic groups. Pakistan and India are weaning themselves from the ideological and religious baggage of previous eras. Iraq and Iran, with two versions of Islamic fervor, locate their respective fulcrum before they get into each other's throats. Libya of North Africa learned the high cost of greed for oil revenues even as Obama tries to recover half of his genetic roots in East Africa.

Mexico mulls over how fast it can extract its oil and gas reserves for commercial use to catch up with the standard of living of its northern neighbors. Chile reexamines how net returns on the exploitation of copper might redound into the wallets of local residents. Brazil's hosting of the World Cup and the upcoming Olympic Games highlights a critical condition of barrios and favelas in blight. We are just touching the tip of the iceberg.

But we are sensitive to who is keeping track of where and when we pee and poo. Of the last guys who revealed official interest on our P&P, J. Assange of WikiLeaks remains ensconced at London's

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



Ecuadorian Embassy to avoid arrest and extradition to Sweden (though he just tossed his hat into Australian politics), M. Bradley is at the tail end of his sanity, and E. Snowden is passport-less on the run, or, at least, at this writing, walking around the international confines of Moscow's Airport!

At least, the Obama White House has realized that prosecution does not deter leaks of "national security" information. There's recognition since Watergate and the Pentagon Papers that truth ultimately liberates. The time has come to treat whistleblowers as heroes in the democratic lists of accountability against the sticky hacking fingers and sweeping overview of Big Brother. 1984 has come and gone. Why now are we suddenly surprised and feign innocence over what we already anticipated was what governments were headed into?

We do not condone Obama's watch (we borrowed our title from protest posters in Europe) even if the snooping activities associated with his term began before he got to the White House. It is said that a mistake is an error unacknowledged, let alone corrected.

Obama's opinion re the inefficacy of prosecution to stop leaks might lead to a real discussions on what constitutes "national security" and its defense, or whether we shall concede the task of leaving that to the magicians of covert operations in quarters recognizably devoid of intelligence!

In a profile students fills out each semester, it asks of their national I.D. numbers. The first six indicates where they were born, the next eight their birth date, and the last four, I do not care. Not unlike our aversion to divulge SS number, a few students are reluctant to reveal their numbers. Since one can't even get on a bus or a train ticket without the I.D. card, I ask them to write all digits save the last four where they have the option to mark "X". Ninety-five percent of them give the full number to me anyway.

Not that I think it is Big Brother's business if it knows when and where I take my drawers down. But the technology for info gathering has become every techies' game, and in a time when the Queen of England gave her nod on gay marriages, ex-US congressman Anthony Weiner who could not keep his pants on is an NYC mayor-wannabe, and third generation George P. Bush of Latino mama is running for a Texas office, who gives a hoot?

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Racism: Need for national conversation

Over the last week or so, we've been bombarded with legal analysis over the Zimmerman acquittal—whether it was racial issue or not—and the legal system in place that served as the only forum upon which was rendered legal disposition.

The discussion has veered off into the “stand your ground” laws of American jurisprudence where a person is allowed to fight back in self-defense. It's a situational question only the person being pounded knows as he deals with life or death.

Nonetheless, President Obama has sought healthy discussion among all Americans about racism, saying it hasn't moved out concurrently with the tidal shift of time. Though the explanation sounded reconciliatory, I find nothing redemptive in his message.

Moreover, I'm not prepared either to listen to civil rights leaders lusting on the fumes of authority that changed the entire country in the '50s and '60s. The likes of Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson peddling vacuous poetic truths have been consigned to a hard fate: “They can never be more than redundancies, echoes of the great men they emulate because America has changed.” It's riddled with obsolescence!

Except for race profiteers or merchants, I still say that as Americans we must discuss it further. It's “*I Pluribus Unum*”—In many, one” where the forum of discussion opens up racial issues long bottled-up inside our hearts. Doing this versus sweeping it under the rug leads to healing and hopefully, closure.

O's deception and distractions

President Obama attempted for the eighth time to shift discussion from his failed economic policy blaming it on what he calls “phony” scandals. It's a do-or-die appeal, fully wary of a 53 percent disapproval rating from fellow Americans on this issue.

But Mr. President, the Benghazi scandal, IRS, NSA, Obamacare and Fast and Furious involved four dead people including an ambassador; extensive probing of groups with different ideological views; snooping into phone conversations of Americans; an unworkable healthcare program dubbed as an impending train wreck; and the

Mrs. Anthony Weiner = Hillary 2.1

I sat there watching the television screen as Anthony Weiner squirmed before the microphones for the second time in two years, and realized that this was a *deja vu* moment.

At first I thought it was because the former congressman and aspiring mayoral candidate was, once again, apologizing for tweeting and cheating without really meeting. And then I took one look at Weiner's wife and realized that this had absolutely nothing to do with the fellow.

Huma Abedin might have creamy olive skin, beautiful brown eyes and long dark hair, but you don't need to put her in a pantsuit and slap a headband on her tresses to realize that we are now in the presence of Hillary Clinton, version 2.1.

We all remember the pre-Senate, pre-State Department Hillary who inspired both awe and revulsion for her assault on the East Wing. Never before had we been treated to a first lady who so blatantly and brazenly sought equal status with the guy we'd actually elected.

Eleanor Roosevelt, her idol, had exercised a considerable amount of weight behind the scenes. But it wasn't until Franklin died that she really came into her own. Not so Mrs. Clinton, or, rather, Mrs. Rodham Clinton.

It was painfully obvious to anyone paying attention that Bill's wife was hell bent on giving us that two-for-one bargain that the couple had promised during the campaign. Say what you will about her, Hillary was a force to be reckoned with. And praised. And loathed. Even her most strident enemies didn't underestimate her survival instincts.

Health care? (If at first you don't succeed ...) Whitewater? (Did anyone say rafting?) Vince Foster? (Personal tragedy, nothing more.) And then came the stream of women: Jennifer (no relation), Paula (a genuine victim) and, of course, “A little bit of Monica.”

Anyone who thought that Hillary was going to let the Bimbo Bombs destroy her carefully constructed plans clearly didn't know just who they were dealing with. Our first lady stood by her philandering man and rode the crest of a sympathetic wave into the Senate. Mrs. Wynette Goes To Washington, so to speak.

And who did she take with her on that long and fruitful journey, ever upward, ever more successfully? Why none other than Mrs. Weiner, the lovely, inscrutable Huma.

Hillary once said that she had one daughter, but that if she had another it would be her beloved personal assistant.

Huma Abedin has been by her mentor's side for almost two decades, and it is reasonable to think that she spent a large part of that

death of an agent near the border.

How could you deviate from the reality of some 3 million jobless Americans? Is it difficult putting closure to deaths in Benghazi and in the southern border with affected families? How could you have shredded the constitutional rights of citizens to meet your political agenda? How is it that of the 250 million people across the fruited plain, it's only you who refuse to admit the inadequacies of your policies on basically every front?

It boggles the mind what Nancy Pelosi is doing after her precipitous remark on Obamacare saying, “Let's go ahead and pass it and find out what's in it later.” Her colleagues did their due diligence and took a glimpse into the healthcare colossus. Members now want exemptions, including their staff.

Finally, is the five-year malaise the work product of folk outside the White House? Employing deception and distraction won't absolve the reality that Mr. O's policies have failed. At day's end, the entire country is inundated with Obama fatigue. Enough, sir!

Interesting aspect of Article 12

Over the last year or so, we've seen presentation of views for or against repealing or retaining Article 12 or land alienation limiting landownership to the indigenous folks on the islands.

What's most interesting, though, was the encouragement from young scholars abroad that this constitutional provision be retained at all cost.

I took the effort to speak to some of our children for explanations. The focus is their education and my suspicion that it must have framed their perception firmly on the current relationship.

Most aren't prepared to embrace the Covenant Agreement and a good percentage related they would have voted against it if the plebiscite were held today.

But what is in their education and experience that wrought a rather discordant perception? Did they have their own experience of discrimination only they know of? Was this experience sufficient to tip their views of the relationship we have with Uncle Sam?

Many are saying, “It's our land!” and it is ludicrous to allow a

repeat of what Native Americans had to endure, being killed and robbed of their land.”

Difficult the issue may be from the perspective and perception of our young scholars, one simply said, “It's island nation building, sir!” Therein lie their dreams and aspirations only they can formulate and decide upon. I now defer to a new role as a “maintenance” man.

As much as I wish to peddle the essence of a citizen's natural rights per the first principles, they're saying the “issue is solely our purview” and “please don't make the same mistake approving an issue (like the Covenant Agreement) that 99 percent of folk never came to understand in the early '70s.”

How straightforward an assertion and it's up to our children to carve their version of brighter tomorrows premised on an informed decision.

Genetics predisposition

When we come to think of it, it seems that many of our people are predisposed with heart, gall bladder and kidney issues. In other words, the illness is genetics, meaning it's in your blood.

It makes it vital that at some point in the near-term, CHCC should commission a study to map out these illnesses if only to resolve how many of our people are in this category.

When this study confirms the existence of genetics predisposition, it equally mandates putting together a program to deal with it down the stretch.

I learned of this health anomaly discussing my cardiovascular issues a day before my discharge from a successful quadruple heart bypass. It emboldened my desire to see that we probe the issue forthwith.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Racism, plain and simple

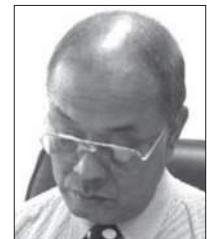
To Mr. Francisco R. Agulto: To target a group of people based on their ethnic group is racist, plain and simple. So you encourage the common goal of discriminating against other ethnicities on our island chain. Whether you like it or not, we are part of the United States and each one of us is afforded due process of the law. We will not encourage discrimination on our behalf, let alone denying the future advancement of other ethnicities on our island chain.

Mr. Agulto, we are from the Mariana Island, our birth certificate states that Chamorro is our ethnicity and our actions will never disconnect us from who we are. We will speak against mistreatment of others and your notion of disconnecting us from the blood lineage of descendants before us is misleading or troubling. You are living an American dream in the United States and at the same time you want to discriminate against others in our island chain based on your indigenous rights theory.

You may use your super intelligence to attack our actions, but we will not stand aside to let your hypocrisy dictate or stop us from expressing our views on issues affecting us in the Marianas. It is obvious that you have no clue as to what is happening to our dearest islands. You write comments to criticize others, but not a single action have you implemented to support your ideas. Whenever you come up with issues affecting our islands, please do something about it or you will just be another wannabe problem solver.

Maybe you should ask the indigenous families who are in the mainland with our assistance, for their children need medical assistance for their extreme medical conditions. In the process, we are saving the CNMI government thousands of dollars in potential future medical bills, which is how much we don't care about our lineage. It is very sad that we call ourselves United States citizens and at the same time we encourage discrimination against others and go against the very principle that many of our friends died protecting.

Segundo Castro
Marpo Valley, Tinian



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 5 to 15 mph.

TUESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 5 to 15 mph.

WEDNESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

THURSDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 88°

▼ 77°

▲ 88°

▼ 77°

▲ 88°

▼ 77°

▲ 88°

▼ 77°

▲ 88°

▼ 77°

Micronesia

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------|------|
| Guam and Rota | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 89 | ▼ 80 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲ 85 | ▼ 75 |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | ▲ 90 | ▼ 77 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲ 87 | ▼ 78 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲ 87 | ▼ 75 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲ 87 | ▼ 75 |
| Majuro | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 86 | ▼ 80 |

Around The Globe

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|------|------|
| Auckland | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 60 | ▼ 51 |
| Beijing | Sunny | ▲ 91 | ▼ 73 |
| Hong Kong | Sunny | ▲ 89 | ▼ 81 |
| Honolulu | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 86 | ▼ 76 |
| London | Windy | ▲ 71 | ▼ 58 |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 73 | ▼ 60 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲ 86 | ▼ 79 |
| Melbourne | Showers | ▲ 59 | ▼ 40 |
| Miami | Thundershowers | ▲ 88 | ▼ 78 |
| New York | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 82 | ▼ 66 |
| Osaka | Thundershowers | ▲ 90 | ▼ 79 |
| Paris | Showers | ▲ 75 | ▼ 60 |
| Pusan | Thundershowers | ▲ 86 | ▼ 79 |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 93 | ▼ 73 |
| Salem | Sunny | ▲ 85 | ▼ 57 |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 58 | ▼ 51 |
| Seoul | Thundershowers | ▲ 85 | ▼ 76 |
| Tokyo | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 92 | ▼ 75 |
| Washington, DC | Sunny | ▲ 85 | ▼ 68 |

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Today | 5:59 AM | 6:48 PM | Today | 11:41 PM | 11:46 AM |
| Tuesday | 5:59 AM | 6:48 PM | Tuesday | | 12:38 PM |
| Wednesday | 5:59 AM | 6:48 PM | Wednesday | 12:25 AM | 1:28 PM |
| Thursday | 5:59 AM | 6:47 PM | Thursday | 1:10 AM | 2:18 PM |
| Friday | 6:00 AM | 6:47 PM | Friday | 1:57 AM | 3:07 PM |

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

ISLAND SNAPSHOT

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|------------|
| UA5070 | 4:35am | 5:25am | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA5062 | 4:50am | 5:40am | 1, 3, 5 |
| UA5068 | 8:35am | 9:25am | Daily |
| UA5074 | 11:20am | 12:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5076 | 3:10pm | 4:00pm | Daily |
| UA5078 | 6:55pm | 7:45pm | Daily |
| UA5072 | 9:45pm | 10:35pm | Daily |

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|------------------|
| UA 5069 | 2:45am | 3:35am | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA5071 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA5073 | 10:00am | 10:50am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5075 | 1:45pm | 2:35pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5077 | 5:35pm | 6:25pm | Daily |
| UA5079 | 8:20pm | 9:10pm | Daily |

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| UA5062 | 3:45am | 4:20am | 1, 3, 5 |
| UA5038 | 11:15am | 11:50am | 6 |

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

| | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| DL287 | 6:05am | 8:45am | Daily |
| DL297 | 4:35pm | 7:25pm | Daily |

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|------------|
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
|-------|--------|--------|------------|

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

| | |
|-------|------|
| OZ607 | 9:05 |
|-------|------|

PHI PHARMACY

17 years of serving the CNMI



MARK RABAGO

PHI Pharmacy staff at the Commonwealth Health Center pose for a group photo. From left, pharmacist and owner Bruce Cohen, certified pharmacist Rochelle Pacson, pharmacists Kristine Feliciano and Cecilia Evangelista, and office manager Edward Blas.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Since it opened in July 29, 1996, PHI Pharmacy has been serving the CNMI community non-stop the last 6,205 days.

The company has gone through everything the last 17 years of its existence on the islands, from typhoons, to starting up as a one-store shop, to expanding to four outlets, to cutting off and reinstating Medicaid, and is now looking forward to the challenge of Obamacare come Jan. 1, 2014.

PHI Pharmacy owner Bruce Cohen said the company got its start in the Commonwealth when the CNMI government put out a request for proposal to take over the operations of the Commonwealth Health Center's outpatient pharmacy.

"We responded to the proposal and we were selected. It took awhile to get it started but we were ready to open on July 29, 1996. We've been open everyday 365 days a year since that time."

When it started, PHI Pharmacy had 15 staff: three pharmacists, half a dozen technicians, and three people in the office.

"We brought down a pharmacy software operating system that I was familiar with that we used in Hawaii and we had to enter all the insurances and all the patients' information one at a time and that produced clean data."

The pharmacy thrived in its first decade on the islands and in the early 2000s Cohen decided that expansion was in order



to serve a greater majority of the island people.

"We remained here [at CHC] with one location until we opened up Dandan in the early 2000s. Dandan brought the capability of carrying more over-the-counter items and the convenience of a full service pharmacy for people living in the area. Then we opened Marina Heights in Puerto Rico and then in Kagman also," he said.

The boom years for PHI Pharmacy, however, soon waned as the CNMI's population dwindled due to a host of factors, among them the demise of the garment industry, the enactment of immigration reform, the overall slowdown of the local economy, and fewer healthcare providers.

"We had to scale back because the population went down and the economics of doing business."

Cohen said PHI Pharmacy currently now has two branches—its main one at CHC on Navy Hill and the one

in Dandan, which not only is a full service retail pharmacy with over-the-counter products, durable medical equipment, and sick room supplies but houses the accounting and billing staff as well as the wholesale operation.

"We did expand into wholesale medical supplies. We now supply local physicians, clinics and other healthcare providers and organizations that desire on-island, reliable, quick service for their supply needs."

Just as PHI Pharmacy was emerging from reorganizing itself after the closure of its Puerto Rico and Kagman outlets, it had to deal with probably the

most challenging time of its 17 years in the CNMI. That was when it was forced to cut off its Medicaid patients as the federal program for indigent patients racked up more than a million dollars in arrears to the company.

"We cut off Medicaid last year and we reinstated Medicaid in February this year. We were unable to serve Medicaid patients for seven months. That was the most difficult decision we've ever made.

"It was unbelievably difficult but it was either not being able to supply the rest of the population and downsizing the business further or saying, 'Stop, you've got to pay us.' Since then Medicaid has come through and they're paying now both the current bills and trying to catch up on the past billings. It appears the current administration has healthcare as one of its priorities."

He said the most important thing is people now have more trust in seeing doctors.

"When Medicaid was shut down they just didn't see doctors. No doctors were taking them. So there were no prescriptions being written if patients aren't going to physicians. Now people are going to physicians and they have confidence back in CHC and things are much, much better than they were a year ago."

Through all that, the company managed to adapt and survive. Cohen said when they cut off Medicaid for seven months they essentially lost as much as 60 percent of their business as more than half of the CNMI's

See PHARMACY on Next Page

NOTICE ALL CLIENTS OF THE FEDERAL LABOR OMBUDSMAN

Due to the upcoming closure of the Federal Labor Ombudsman office on September 30, 2013, aliens are advised of the following change in operations of the office.

- As of August 1, 2013, office will be open only on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with Thursday and Friday for appointments only for clients with active cases that require further assistance of the office prior to our final closure of both the case and the office.
- As of August 15, 2013, no more walk in clients or clients referred by other agencies for assistance will be entertained. Caseworkers will continue to make appointments with clients with open cases to provide as much assistance as possible prior to September 1, 2013.
- Any client with an open case is encouraged to immediately contact the caseworker providing assistance to determine what if anything remains to be done prior to September 1, 2013 in order to reach final resolution of the matter.

We, the staff of the Federal Labor Ombudsman, greatly appreciate your patience and cooperation in this time of transition.

通知所有联邦劳工监察官办公室的客户

由于联邦劳工监察官办公室即将于 2013 年 9 月 30 日关闭，特告示外籍人士关于以下办公室运作服务的变更。

- 从 2013 年 8 月 1 日起，办公室将仅会在周一，周二和周三开门办公。而周四和周五只服务持有仍在开放进行中案件并需要进一步协助的预约客户，直到案件和办公室的最终关闭为止。
- 从 2013 年 8 月 15 日起，不再接待无预约直接上门的或者由其他机构推介的客户。案工作者们还会继续与现存开放案件的客户们订立预约，并在 2013 年 9 月 1 日前尽可能地提供服务。
- 办公室鼓励任何持有仍在开放进行中案件的客户，立即联系提供协助的案工作者以确认如有任何遗留问题需要在 2013 年 9 月 1 日前处理完毕，以达到案件的最终解决。

我们，联邦劳工监察官办公室的全体工作人员，非常感谢您在这个过渡时期的耐心与合作。

PAUNAWA SA LAHAT NG KLIYENTE NG FEDERAL LABOR OMBUDSMAN

Dahil sa nalalapit na pagsasara ng tanggapan ng Federal Labor Ombudsman sa Septyembre 30, 2013, kaya ay pinapayuhan sa mga sumusunod na pagbabago sa mga pagpapatakbo ng opisina.

- Simula Agosto 1, 2013, ang opisina ay bukas lamang sa Lunes, Martes, at Miyerkules, ang Huwebes at Biyernes ay para lamang sa appointment ng mga kliyente na may aktibong kaso na nangangailangan ng karagdagang tulong tulang ng opisina bago ang aming pagsasara ng parehong kaso at ng opisina.
- Simula Agosto 15, 2013, hindi na namin maaasikaso ang mga kliyenteng "walk in" o ang mga kliyenteng ini-refer ng iba pang ahensya. Ang mga Caseworkers ay patuloy na gagawa ng appointment sa mga kliyente na may bukas na kaso upang mabigayan ng sapat na tulong hangga't maaari bago ang Septyembre 1, 2013.
- Ang mga kliyente na may bukas pang kaso ay hinihikayat na agad makipag-ugnay sa caseworker na tumutulong sa inyo upang matukoy kung anong mga bagay ang nararapat pang gawin bago ang Septyembre 1, 2013 para sa paglutas ng inyong kaso.

Kami, ang mga tauhan ng Federal Labor Ombudsman, ay lubos na pinahalagahan ang inyong pasensya at pakikipagtulungan sa oras na ito ng pagbabago

Repeat offender gets year in prison for choking wife

A repeat offender was slapped with a one-year prison term for choking his common-law wife while he was drunk.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman

sentenced Tarson T. Peter on Wednesday to a year in prison without parole for assault and battery (domestic violence).

Peter, 38, was given credit for time served. He is expected to

complete his sentence on April 12, 2014. He will then be placed on probation for three years and is required to perform 100 hours of community service. He is also barred from drinking alco-

hol during his probation.

Peter was ordered to pay a \$200 fine, \$25 court assessment fee, and \$300 probation fee.

The case arose from an incident on April 10, 2013, on

Saipan, when Peter, who was intoxicated, choked his common-law wife.

In May 2006, Peter was sentenced to two years for assault and battery, violating an

order of protection, and disturbing the peace. In that case, he forced his common-law wife to eat food on the floor and beat her up with a broom. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

PHARMACY

From Page 13

residents are on the program and these are the sickest segment of the population.

They had to make ends meet and the company became more efficient and streamlined, reducing expenses wherever possible. This is not much different than other companies across the United States that over the past few years had to reduce costs and create efficiencies.

To Cohen's relief, PHI Pharmacy is on the rebound once

again. "I've been a pharmacist for over 30 years operating pharmacies so I know the economics of pharmacy and we've gotten as streamlined as we possibly can and we were able to survive and now we're thriving again. We have approximately 25 staff right now."

With the Affordable Care Act set to take effect in Jan. 1, 2014, Cohen again hopes to steer PHI Pharmacy through the ups and downs of the new federal mandate.

The Act, also known as Obamacare, aims to increase health insurance coverage in

the United States by reducing health insurance and health care costs and expanding coverage.

"We're not really sure of its impact in the CNMI. It could increase the number of Medicaid patients and increase the funding for Medicaid. Or, it could decrease the number of Medicaid patients and funding. So we need to be nimble to be able to respond quickly to any changes in the delivery of healthcare when Obamacare comes into effect."

Anniversary promotion

As it marks its 17th anniversary,

PHI Pharmacy is extending a big "thank you" to the local community by having as much as 75 percent off on items at its CHC and Dandan locations until the end of the month.

"We're having a 25-percent-off sale right now running through July 31 and 50-percent and 75-percent off on some items that includes all over-the-counter items, durable medical equipment, vitamins, and all the nutritional supplements that we sell."

This is a great time to buy equipment like wheelchairs since even a 25-percent discount could translate to \$100

off on the item.

"We're just very grateful. We're the first retail pharmacy in the CNMI and the only retail pharmacy that's open seven days a week with multiple locations. So that makes us unique in the way we service patients. If patients go to Dandan they can get refills in CHC and vice versa. We have one server so all information from both pharmacies is on one computer, which makes it convenient for all the people. We've been in business for 17 years. Thank you for the local community's support. They've been very supportive all along."

Not one Medicaid patient was upset when we cut off Medicaid. They all came in and said 'we understand you had to do it.'

Now that everything seems be on the up and up, could there be a revival of PHI Pharmacy's expansion to other villages on Saipan?

"I would not rule anything out. Kagman now has their clinic operational so we will see how that works out. We may expand in due time but of course we have to be very careful not to over-expand. It's looking much, much better than it was the past couple of years," said Cohen.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 1,500-GALLON AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLE** to the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAI PAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA-SA-002-13**, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Contractors are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Procurement and Delivery of One (1) 1,500-Gallon ARFF Vehicle to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, CPA-SA-002-13", and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2013**, to the Office of the Acting Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle in accordance with the specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED SIXTY (360) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible," their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JULY 19, 2013**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders are required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ FRANCES C. MAFNAS
Acting Chair of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: July 25, 2013



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 1,500-GALLON AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLE** to the **TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA-TA-001-13**, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Contractors are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Procurement and Delivery of One (1) 1,500-Gallon ARFF Vehicle to the Tinian International Airport, CPA-TA-001-13", and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2013**, to the Office of the Acting Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle in accordance with the specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED SIXTY (360) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible," their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2013**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders are required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ FRANCES C. MAFNAS
Acting Chair of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: July 25, 2013

Six CNMI librarians earn their master's degrees

HONOLULU, Hawaii—Six individuals from the CNMI, together with 22 other Library Education for the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Program graduates of PREL, recently earned their master's degrees in Library and Information Sciences from the University of North Texas.

A graduation celebration was held on Friday, July 19, 2013, on Saipan, at the conclusion of the 28th Pacific Educational Conference, and the Pacific region has gained highly qualified librarians who are poised to support 21st century learning in their respective communities.

The librarians from the CNMI—Rosalyn Ajoste, Meena Benavente, Natalie Hill, Maria Ornes, and Angelina Yobech—all earned master's degrees in Library Science, while Eric San Nicolas earned a master's in Information Systems.

The Pacific Resources for Ed-

ucation and Learning congratulates the LEAP cohort on the successful completion of their challenging degree programs.

In August 2011, students from throughout the U.S.-affiliated Pacific islands began their master's degree program in Library and Information Sciences. Funded by an Institute of Museum and Library Services Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grant, the Library Education for the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific, or LEAP, project has prepared professional librarians and information managers who will contribute to the development and improvement of libraries, educational programs, and community activities throughout the region.

During the three-year project, PREL, in collaboration with the University of North Texas College of Information—Department of Library and Information Sciences and the University of North

Texas Libraries, administered 23 full scholarships, supported the cohort of 28 students, and delivered a high quality educational experience to cohort members. The UNT/DLIS master's degree is an American Library Association accredited degree program.

The goal of LEAP is to prepare professionally qualified librarians to manage libraries with the skills and knowledge to implement high quality, innovative, useful, and credible educational and informational programs, bringing 21st century skills to the Pacific region through their chosen library and information careers. The cohort is demographically representative of the region with students coming from five of the six USAPI entities, including American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam,

and the Republic of Palau.

Besides the six from the CNMI, the 22 other LEAPers who earned a master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of North Texas include: Faailoa Afalava (American Sāmoa, Library Science), Tanya Chambers (Japan, Library Science), Alicia Diego (Guam, Library Science), Debra Duenas (Guam, Informa-

tion Science), Melissa Gentapangan (Guam, Library Science), Jennifer Hainrick (Pohnpei, Library Science), Jayleen Kokis (Chuuk, Library Science), Amy Kranz (Guam, Library Science), Jeffrey Libao (Guam, Library Science), Wai Yi Ma (Guam, Library Science), Imengel Mad (Palau, Library Science), Justin Maga (American Sāmoa, Library Science), Perry Pange-

lin (Guam, Library Science), Ismael Perez (Guam, Library Science), Antonio Perry (Guam, Library Science), Roland San Nicolas (Guam, Library Science), Carmen Santos (Guam, Library Science), Krishnan Seerengen (Guam, Information Science), Anita Tenorio (Guam, Library Science), Jean Thoulag (Pohnpei, Library Science), Rosalind Unpingco (Guam, Library Science), and Elvis Pau'u Zodiacal (American Sāmoa, Library Science). (PREL)

Marines, Air Force training on FDM

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Marines and U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on the following dates and times:

- July 29, from 2pm to 5:30pm and 8pm to 10pm
- July 30 – 31, from 11am to 1:30pm, 3pm to 6pm and 8pm to 10pm
- Aug. 1, from 10am to 6pm
- Aug. 2, from 1pm to 3pm

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and



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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **SIA ROOF DRAINAGE AND A/C SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, FRANCISCO C. ADA SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO. 3-69-0002-62/65/67 (CPA-SA-003-09)**.

Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2013**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of the Drainage System Improvement/Upgrade and Air-Conditioning Improvements to include the replacement of the damaged roof waterproofing with existing insulation board and diversion of the roof drain, and replacement of all PCU units and associated duct works serving all CPA (i.e. public area), all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in 330 calendar days. The contractor shall be assessed with the liquidated damages in the amount of \$500/day if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-24 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00) for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the **CONFERENCE ROOM, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 10:00 AM, FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2013**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will follow right after the pre-bid conference. Attendance is mandatory to all prospective bidders. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference. Contractors are required to attend the pre-bid meeting.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are encouraged to use the CD bid schedule form. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ FRANCES C. MAFNAS
Acting Board Chair/Contracting Officer

Date: July 26, 2013

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 1,500-GALLON AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLE** to the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA / ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA-RA-002-13**, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Marianna Islands 96950.

Contractors are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Procurement and Delivery of One (1) 1,500-Gallon ARFF Vehicle to the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona / Rota International Airport, CPA-RA-002-13", and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2013**, to the Office of the Acting Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle in accordance with the specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED SIXTY (360) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2013**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders are required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ FRANCES C. MAFNAS
Acting Chair of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: July 23, 2013

Business

Chamber and Interior's Sobeck discuss CNMI issues

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce's board of directors met with acting assistant secretary for Interior's Office of Insular Affairs Eileen Sobeck on Wednesday, July 24, to discuss economic issues pertinent to businesses in the Commonwealth.

Sobeck had requested a meeting with the Chamber's officers and directors on her recent visit to the CNMI. Chamber president Alex Sablan and board members

Velma Palacios, Greg Moretti, and Rosemond Santos attended. Also present was SCC executive director Richard Pierce.

The OIA acting assistant secretary informed the Chamber contingency she had had discussions concerning the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. with the Inos administration, and also informed the Chamber that the closure of the federal Labor Ombudsman's Office

was scheduled.

The Chamber has always expressed concern that a functioning health care center is not only vital to island residents, but is a priority should the Department of Homeland Security eventually implement a CNMI-only retirement visa program as outlined in the Consolidated Natural Resources Act.

Also discussed were the Omnibus Territories Act of 2013,



SAIPAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Acting assistant secretary for Interior's Office of Insular Affairs Eileen Sobeck, third from left, meets with Saipan Chamber of Commerce officials on Wednesday, July 24, to discuss economic issues pertinent to businesses in the Commonwealth. Others in photo are, from left, Chamber board members Velma Palacios, Rosemond Santos, Chamber president Alex Sablan, Greg Moretti, and Chamber executive director Richard Pierce.

containing provisions calling for an extension of the CNRA's CW-1 foreign national worker permitting program, amendments to the gradual increase in CNMI minimum wage rates, and an extension of foreign investor programs should the Omnibus Territories Act pass Congress and be signed into law.

FICA tax exemptions for foreign national employees, an updated prevailing wage survey, Interior's support for increased outreach to foreign investors in Asia and President Obama's Tourism Promotion Initiative, Visit USA, were also discussed.

Chamber president Sablan closed the Wednesday meeting,

thanking Sobeck for her desire to meet with the business community to discuss the current economic state of the Commonwealth, while pledging the Chamber's continued efforts to work with the federal and local governments in reviving a "bottomed out" CNMI economy. (*Chamber*)

United Airlines reports \$521M Q2 profit

CHICAGO—United Airlines reported Thursday last week second-quarter 2013 net income of \$521 million, or \$1.35 per diluted share, excluding \$52 million of special charges. Including special charges, UAL reported second-quarter 2013 net income of \$469 million, an increase of 38 percent year-over-year, or \$1.21 per diluted share.

■ UAL generated \$10 billion of revenue in the second quarter of 2013, its highest ever second-quarter revenue result.

■ Leading the U.S. airline industry in year-over-year passenger revenue per available seat mile growth for the second consecutive quarter, United's PRASM increased 1.0 percent in the second quarter compared to the second quarter of 2012.

■ Second-quarter consolidated unit costs (CASM), hold-

ing fuel rate and profit sharing constant and excluding special charges and third-party business expense, increased 4.5 percent year-over-year on a consolidated capacity (available seat miles) reduction of 2.1 percent. Second-quarter consolidated CASM increased 0.7 percent year-over-year.

■ UAL ended the second quarter with \$7.0 billion in unrestricted liquidity.

"I am encouraged by the progress we made in the second quarter—in our operations, in our customer service and in our financial performance," said Jeff Smisek, chairman, president, and chief executive officer. "I'd like to thank my co-workers for working together as we build the world's leading airline."

For the second quarter, total revenue was \$10.0 billion, an in-

crease of 0.6 percent compared to the same period in 2012. Second-quarter consolidated passenger revenue decreased 1.1 percent year-over-year to \$8.7 billion, on a consolidated capacity decrease of 2.1 percent year-over-year. Cargo and other revenue in the second quarter increased 13.8 percent versus the second quarter of 2012, or \$162 million, to \$1.3 billion.

"I'd like to thank our team for working through challenging weather and high load factors to deliver competitive on-time performance and customer service this quarter," said Jim Compton, UAL's vice chairman and chief revenue officer. "For the second straight quarter, our unit revenue outperformed the industry. Our investments in customer service training and in our product are paying off." (*United*)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-13-021

CONSTRUCTION OF 300K GALLON TANK REPLACEMENT FOR PAPAGO TANK

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of a 300K Gallon Tank Replacement for Papago Tank for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

The selected firm shall have experience in construction and design of pre-stressed concrete and/or welded steel water storage tanks. The work consists of demolition of the existing glass-fused, steel bolted 0.50 million gallon tank and its foundation; construction of the new 300K gallon tank as per approved design, foundation, tank appurtenances, and yard piping and connections.

The project is to be completed in 300 calendar days from date of contract award.

The Bid Tender Documents may be secured, upon receipt of payment by the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card of \$100.00. The payment is non-refundable. The payment receipt shall be presented to the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 PM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on July 11, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST), at the CUC Safety & Compliance Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 14, Joeten Dandan, Commercial Building.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This Invitation for Bids and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-13-021, Construction of 300K Gallon Tank Replacement for Papago Tank" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 6, 2013**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Insufficient copies of bid submitted can be subject to technical default and rejection of bid.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred percent (100%) and a Performance Bond of one hundred percent (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. For the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract, the Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurer questions, concerns and qualification shall be governed by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code. Please refer to other bidding requirements described in Section 002113 - Instructions to Bidders.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 19, 2013 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Procurement & Supply Manager, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, Water/Wastewater, Chief Engineer via email john.riegel@cucgov.org & Christi Lazaro, Water Division Assistant Engineer via email christi.lazaro@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the Commonwealth utilities Corporation.

ALAN FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-13-022

SALARY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified consultant or consulting firm to review and revise the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's current Salary Administration Program (SAP), including the development of a performance management rating and payment system.

The RFP package and the scope-of-work may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$ 100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **August 8, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-13-022, Salary Administration Program", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 27, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Offerors will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **August 12, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Frankie Cepeda, CUC Human Resource Manager via email frankie.cepeda@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

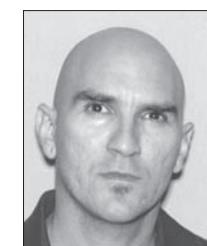
Nation

Gunman kills 6 in Fla. apartment shooting rampage

HIALEAH, Fla. (AP)—A man living with his mother in a South Florida apartment complex set their unit on fire and went on a shooting rampage throughout the building, killing six people before being shot to death by police. As the eight-hour standoff unfolded, horrified residents hunkered down in their homes, at times so close to the action they could feel the gunfire or hear negotiations between the gunman and police, authorities

and witnesses said Saturday. In the final hours, Pedro Vargas, 42, held two people hostage at gunpoint for up to three hours in their apartment until a SWAT team entered and killed him, police said. The hostages were not hurt.

"The crime scene is the whole building," said Lt. Carl Zogby, a spokesman with the Hialeah Police Department.



Police were called to the aging, five-story apartment building in Hialeah, a working class suburb a few miles northwest of downtown Miami, on Friday at 6:30 p.m. The first calls reported a fire, but when firefighters arrived, they heard shots and immediately notified police, Zogby said.

Vargas, who has no known

ACROSS THE NATION

3 dead when bus carrying teens crashes in Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—A bus carrying teenagers returning to Indiana from a church camp in Michigan crashed Saturday afternoon just minutes from home, killing three people and sending 26 others to hospitals, officials said. The bus came speeding off of Interstate 465 in northern Indianapolis, about a mile from the Colonial Hills Baptist Church that passengers attended, struck a retaining wall as it rounded a curve and overturned. The campers were returning from Camp CoBeAc in northern Michigan, about six hours away. The church's youth pastor had sent a tweet a couple of hours before the crash saying the group was expected to arrive at the church about 4:15 p.m., around the time the accident happened. The dead included a man and his wife, Riggs said. Authorities did not provide information about the third victim.

Detroit bankruptcy another setback for unions

WASHINGTON (AP)—Detroit's historic bankruptcy filing is a major setback for public employee unions that have spent years trying to ward off cuts to the pensions of millions of government workers around the country. If the city's gambit succeeds, it could jeopardize an important bargaining tool for unions, which often have deferred higher wages in favor of more generous pensions and health benefits. It also could embolden other financially troubled cities dealing with pension shortfalls to consider bankruptcy, or at least take a harder line with their unions in negotiating cuts. "This is essentially the union's worst nightmare," said Gary Chaison, professor of industrial relations at Clark University in Worcester, Mass. "It means that the most sacred of sacred things they've negotiated for, the pensions of their retired members, are going to be severely cut."

criminal record, set a combustible liquid on fire in his fourth-floor apartment. Building manager Italo Pisciotti, 79, and his wife, Camira Pisciotti, 69, saw smoke and ran to the unit, Zogby said. When they arrived, Vargas opened the door and fired,

killing both.

Detectives were investigating whether Vargas had any ongoing disputes with the building manager, as some residents believed. His mother was not home at the time.

After gunning down the

1 body found, 1 person missing in NY boat crash

PIERMONT, N.Y. (AP)—Brian Bond was disoriented from head trauma and in darkness when he awoke from unconsciousness soon after the speedboat he was in with his fiancee and four friends smashed into a construction barge on New York's Hudson River, hurling the bride-to-be and Bond's best man into the water.

Bond used his cellphone to call 911 late Friday night, and first responders relied on heat-seeking technology to locate the boat just south of the Tappan Zee Bridge, authorities said.

On Saturday, a woman's body matching the description of 30-year-old Lindsey Stewart was pulled from the water. Authorities haven't yet released a positive identification.

Stewart and Bond, friends since childhood, were to be married in two weeks, on Aug. 10.

Bond's best man, Mark Lennon, 30, remains missing and is presumed dead, authorities said. Emergency crews planned to continue their search for him Sunday.

Jojo John, who was operating the boat, was charged Saturday with vehicular manslaughter and three counts of vehicular assault from a hospital bed where he was recovering from his injuries in the crash, said Chief William Barbera of the Rockland County Sheriff's Office.

Authorities said they suspect the 35-year-old Nyack man was intoxicated at the time of the crash; they were awaiting the results of blood tests. Attempts to reach John's family were not immediately successful and it was not clear if he had an attorney.

Barbera declined to identify the other two people aboard the boat and had no information on

building managers, Vargas went back into his burning apartment and fired 10 to 20 shots from a 9mm pistol into the street. One of the bullets struck 33-year-old Carlos Javier Gavilanes, who was parking his car after returning home from work. Zogby said his body was found next to his vehicle.

their condition. The two and Bond also remained hospitalized Saturday night.

The group had left the village of Piermont for a short trip aboard the 21-foot Stingray across the river to Tarrytown, about 30 miles north of New York City, authorities said.

Stewart and Lennon were thrown from the boat when it struck a barge carrying materials for the construction of a replacement for the Tappan Zee Bridge, authorities said. Barbera said the barge was equipped with lights, but it was still difficult to see on the water late at night.

Stewart, of Piermont, worked for an insurance company. She and Bond were to be married at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Pearl River, with a reception at a vineyard in Hillburn, her stepfather Walter Kosik said.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-13-024

TANK # 103, 120 & ISO TANKS CLEANING AT CUC POWER PLANT NO. 1, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the Tank Nos. 103, 120 & ISO Tank Cleaning at CUC Power Plant, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The "CUC" or "Corporation" currently operates multiple diesel engine generators at its Power Plant Nos. 1 and No. 2, Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI. The CUC is soliciting proposals from experienced contractors or specialist firms experienced in the cleaning of fuel storage tanks up to 1 M USG capacity.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the United States District Court entered into a Stipulated Order Number Two (SO No. 2) for Preliminary Injunctive Relief under Civil Case No. CV 08-0051 (Section 1.1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed the civil action seeking injunctive relief under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This work shall satisfy the requirement in Section IV, Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness, Paragraphs # 28 Tank System Integrity Testing Work plan and Implementation for CUC Power plants 1 and 2 Integrity Inspection Program. The Power Plants 1 and 2 are located at the Lower Base Industrial Area near Saipan seaport, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). It is the corporations' desire to undertake cleaning of the Bulk tank # 103, as soon the new tank #102 under construction is commissioned:

The work shall be done in two phases:

- Phase 1 - Tank #103 (840,000 gal.)
- Phase 2 - Miscellaneous tanks – Tank # 120 (20,000 gal.) & ISO tanks, 2 ea. – 6,350 gal.

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$50.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a site visit, will be held on **August 12, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Power Plant No. 1 Conference Room in Lower Base, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**TANK # 103, 120 & ISO TANKS CLEANING AT CUC POWER PLANT 1, SAIPAN**", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 29, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Contract will be awarded to the most responsive proposers, as adjudged CUC and US EPA. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **August 13, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Power Generation Acting TMO via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-13-025

TANK 103 OUT OF SERVICE (API 653) INSPECTION AT POWER PLANT NO. 1, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced engineering and certified specialist firms for the out of service inspection and integrity testing of the above ground oil storage tank (AST) # 103 and connected pipeline within the secondary containment at CUC Power Plant No. 1 in Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the United States District Court entered into a Stipulated Order Number Two (SO No. 2) for Preliminary Injunctive Relief under Civil Case No. CV 08-0051 (Section 1.1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed the civil action seeking injunctive relief under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This work shall satisfy the requirement in Section IV, Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness, Paragraphs # 28 Tank System Integrity Testing Work plan and Implementation for CUC Power plants 1 and 2 Integrity Inspection Program. The Power Plants 1 and 2 are located at the Lower Base Industrial Area near Saipan seaport, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The inspection is expected to be in two phases:

1. Out of service pre-repair inspection after tank cleaning, and
2. Final tank inspection after performing the necessary repairs based on the scope of work developed during Phase 1.

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$50.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a site visit, will be held on **August 13, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Power Plant No. 1 Conference Room in Lower Base, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**TANK 103 OUT OF SERVICE (API 653) INSPECTION AT POWER PLANT NO. 1, SAIPAN**", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 30, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Contract will be awarded to the most responsive proposers, as adjudged CUC and US EPA. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **August 14, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Power Generation Acting TMO via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

World

Millions are expected in Rio for final Mass of papal trip

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Pilgrims staked out spots on the sand of Copacabana beach for an all-night slumber party ahead of the final Mass of Pope Francis' stay in Brazil, a trip that has drawn rapturous crowds of up to 3 million faithful.

Francis headed into the final hours of his first international trip riding a remarkable wave of popularity: By the time his open-sided car reached the stage for the vigil service Sat-

urday night, the back seat was piled high with soccer jerseys, flags and flowers tossed to him by adoring pilgrims lining the beachfront route.

"I'm trembling, look how good you can see him!" gushed Fiorella Dias, a 16-year-old Brazilian who jumped for joy as she reviewed the video she shot as the pope passed by. "I have got to call my mother!"

The vigil drew a reported 3 million flag-waving, rosary-

toting faithful, who overflowed Copacabana beach's 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) of white sand on the final evening of World Youth Day. The attendance figure, given by local media citing the mayor's office, is higher than the 1 million at the last World Youth Day vigil in Madrid in 2011, and far more than the 650,000 at Toronto's 2002 vigil.

Many of those watching the vigil had tears in their eyes as they listened to Francis' call for

them to build up their church like his namesake, St. Francis of Assisi, was called to do.

"Jesus offers us something bigger than the World Cup!" Francis said, drawing cheers from the crowd in this soccer-mad nation.

On the beach, pilgrims staked out their spots on the sand, lounged and snacked, preparing for the all-night slumber party ahead of Sunday's Mass. Francis leaves Brazil Sunday evening.

"At church, it can be a bit tedious, but here it's amazing," marveled Anna Samson, a 21-year-old college senior from Long Beach, California.

"Seeing the pope, seeing the Stations of the Cross acted out live, seeing all these young people from all over," she said as she and two friends plied the beach in search of a place to spread their sleeping bags. "It's overwhelming, just amazing."

Rio's mayor has estimated

that as many as 3 million people might turn out for Sunday's Mass.

Saturday night's vigil capped a busy day for the pope in which he drove home a message he has emphasized throughout the week in speeches, homilies and off-the-cuff remarks: the need for Catholics, lay and religious, to shake up the status quo, get out of their stuffy sacristies and reach the faithful on the margins of society or risk losing them to rival churches.

WORLD BRIEFS

Manila to move air force, navy near disputed sea

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines plans to relocate major air force and navy camps to a former U.S. naval base north of Manila to gain faster access to waters being contested by China in the South China Sea, according to the country's defense chief and a confidential government report. Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said Sunday that as soon as relocation funds are available the government plans to transfer air force and naval forces and their fleets of aircraft and warships to Subic Bay, which has become a busy free port since the 1992 departure of

the U.S. Navy. "It's for the protection of our West Philippine Sea," Gazmin told The Associated Press by telephone, using the name adopted by the Philippine government for the disputed South China Sea. "We're looking now for the funding," Gazmin said from South Korea, where he was on a visit.

In Egypt bloodshed, dozens of Morsi backers killed

CAIRO (AP)—Security forces and armed men clashed with supporters of Egypt's ousted president early Saturday, killing at least 65 people in mayhem that underscored an increasingly heavy hand against protests de-

manding Mohammed Morsi's return to office. In chaotic scenes, pools of blood stained the floor and bodies were lined up under white sheets in a makeshift hospital near the site of the battles in eastern Cairo. Doctors struggled to cope with the flood of dozens of wounded, many with gunshots to the head or chest. It was the deadliest single outbreak of violence since the military ousted Morsi on July 3 and one of the deadliest in 2 ½ years of turmoil in Egypt. It was not immediately clear if all the 65 killed were all protesters or if residents who joined the fight against the march were among the dead. The Brotherhood said that 66 Morsi supporters were

killed in the Cairo violence.

Death toll from Pakistan marketplace bombs now 57

PARACHINAR, Pakistan (AP)—The death toll from a pair of overnight bombings at a busy market in a Shiite-dominated region of northwest Pakistan rose to 57, officials said Saturday. As many as 167 people were also wounded in Friday's apparent sectarian attacks in the town of Parachinar, which sits in the Kurram tribal area that borders Afghanistan to the west, hospital official Shabir Hussain and Shiite leader Hamid Ali said. Hussain said almost all the dead and wounded

were Shiites. There was no claim of responsibility, but authorities have blamed militant groups belonging to the Sunni Muslim majority for previous gun and bomb attacks against the Shiite minority.

More than 1,000 inmates escape Libyan prison

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—More than a thousand inmates escaped a prison Saturday in Libya as protesters stormed political party offices across the country, signs of the simmering unrest gripping a nation overrun by militias and awash in weaponry. It wasn't immediately clear if the jailbreak at al-Kweifiya

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Availability

Siting of a Solid Waste Transfer Station on the Island of Tinian, CNMI

AGENCY: Department of the Interior/Office of Insular Affairs (DOI/OIA) and Capital Improvements Projects Program Office/Office of the Governor, CNMI (CIP Office).

ACTION: Notice of the Availability of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: DOI/OIA and the CIP Office have prepared an environmental assessment (EA) analyzing the potential foreseeable environmental and socioeconomic impacts of siting a solid waste transfer station on the Island of Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. As a result of the analysis in the EA, DOI/OIA issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The FONSI concluded that the potential impacts associated with the preferred alternative would not significantly impact the environment; therefore, the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required.

The draft EA was available for public and other local and federal agencies' review during March 19, 2012 to April 17, 2012. This EA incorporated the comments received during this review period.

The purpose of this notice is to inform the public of the availability of the EA and FONSI, which can be accessed online at: <http://gov.mp/tinian-solid-waste-transfer-station> or by going to www.gov.mp and clicking on "Tinian Solid Waste Transfer Station" link. A hard copy can be viewed at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library on Saipan.

AUTHORITY: This notice is published pursuant to 43 CFR 46.305

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Elizabeth S. Balajadia, P.E., CIP Project Manager
Caller Box 10007
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: 670-664-2375
Facsimile: 670-664-2408
E-mail: balajadiaelizabeth@hotmail.com



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY CLERK II

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the Presiding Judge and under the direct supervision of the Superior Court Clerk of Court on Saipan. The work involves the exercise of independent judgment and taking independent action in accordance with established policies, practices and court procedures. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Receive, review and record documents filed for hearings;
- Review documents presented by litigants for accuracy, proper form, and conformance with court rules;
- Track cases taken under advisement, ensure updates of same and provide periodic reports to the Clerk of Court and affected judges;
- Set the court calendar and adjust the same to maximize courtroom time and meet unusual situations;
- Prepare bench warrants, subpoenas, summons and other related documents for issuance;
- Assess fines, receive and account for monies, issue receipts, prepare deposit slips, and make disbursements when ordered or directed;
- Interpret and disseminate information, policies, and procedures governing the hearing of cases;
- Assist with the certification of records in cases appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court;
- Serve as a courtroom clerk for the judges, which includes but is not limited to the following: ensuring courtroom readiness for proceedings, attending court sessions, administering oaths to witnesses, operating electronic recording equipment, listing all relevant portions of proceedings on a log, receiving, marking and assuming responsibility of all introduced evidence, and performing translation during proceedings;
- Assist the Clerk of Court with Jury Trial Coordination. Compile, track, and update applicable lists of Commonwealth citizens eligible for jury service, and
- Performs other related duties as assigned by the Presiding Judge and/or Superior Court Clerk of Court.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate should have any combination equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in business administration or related field, plus a minimum of four (4) years of experience in law, law enforcement, court administration or related work. There is a strong preference for those with work experience in the legal field and those with a bachelor's degree. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. Salary will be \$25,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Michelle V. Guerrero
Human Resource/Administrative Officer
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled. This job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Health & Fitness

Skipping breakfast may increase heart attack risk



This March 26, 2012 file photo shows a plate of pancakes with blueberries and granola mixed in the batter in Concord, N.H.

ATLANTA (AP)—Another reason to eat breakfast: Skipping it may increase your chances of a heart attack.

A study of older men found those who regularly skipped breakfast had a 27 percent higher risk of a heart attack than those who ate a morning meal. There's no reason why the results wouldn't apply to other people, too, the Harvard researchers said.

Other studies have suggested a link between breakfast and obesity, high blood pressure, diabetes and other health problems seen as precursors to heart problems.

"But no studies looked at long-term risk of heart attack," said Eric Rimm, one of the study authors at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Why would skipping breakfast be a heart attack risk?

Experts aren't certain, but here's what they think: People who don't eat breakfast are more likely to be hungrier later in the day and eat larger meals. Those meals mean the body must process a larger amount of calories in a shorter amount of time. That can spike sugar levels in the blood and perhaps lead to clogged arteries.

But is a stack of syrupy pancakes, greasy eggs and lots of bacon really better than eating nothing?

The researchers did not ask what the study participants ate for breakfast, and were not prepared to pass judgment on whether a fatty, sugary breakfast is better than no breakfast at all.

Other experts agreed that it's hard to say.

"We don't know whether it's the timing or content of breakfast that's important. It's probably both," said Andrew Odegaard, a Uni-

versity of Minnesota researcher who has studied a link between skipping breakfast and health problems like obesity and high blood pressure.

"Generally, people who eat breakfast tend to eat a healthier diet," he added.

The new research was released Monday by the journal Circulation. It was an observational study, so it's not designed to prove a cause and effect. But when done well, such studies can reveal important health risks.

The researchers surveyed nearly 27,000 men about their eating habits in 1992. About 13 percent of them said they regularly skipped breakfast. They all were educated health professionals—like dentists and veterinarians—and were at least 45.

Over the next 16 years, 1,527 suffered fatal or non-fatal heart attacks, including 171 who had said they regularly skipped breakfast.

In other words, over 7 percent of the men who skipped breakfast had heart attacks, compared to nearly 6 percent of those who ate breakfast.

The researchers calculated the increased risk at 27 percent, taking into account other factors like smoking, drinking, diet and health problems like high blood pressure and obesity.

As many as 18 percent of U.S. adults regularly skip breakfast, according to federal estimates. So the study could be important news for many, Rimm said.

"It's a really simple message," he said. "Breakfast is an important meal."

Personal Trainer

Avoiding a dog attack on a run

Basic precautions to keep from being attacked by a dog when you are out walking or running:

- Stay a safe distance from dogs that are being walked
- Ask owner's permission before approaching a dog
- Do not approach a dog that is barking, snarling, sleeping or eating
- Do not stare a dog in the eye



Nice doggie

If dog acts aggressive

- Turn sideways and stand still or move slowly out of dog's territory
- Put a tree, post or bench between yourself and dog
- Speak softly, "Good dog, it's OK, go home now"

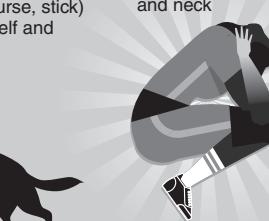
If dog charges

- Use pepper spray if it is legal under local law
- Get an object (umbrella, jacket, pack, purse, stick) between yourself and dog's mouth



If dog attacks

- Curl up in a ball and cover your face, head and neck



Source: "Your Guide to Walking" by Wendy Bumgardner
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas and Paul Trap
© 2013 MCT

**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-COTA/FTA-148 (A-C)

Submission Date: August 14, 2013 Time: 11:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) DESKTOP COMPUTER SYSTEM, THREE (3) LAPTOPS AND SIX (6) WIDESCREEN MONITORS, A PROJECT UNDER THE OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY "

The Scope of Work for this project will be available on or after July 22, 2013 at COTA Office of the Special Assistant for Public Transportation, 1st Floor, Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, Isa Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

This is a federally funded project; proposers are required to comply with FTA Federal Contract Clauses as applicable.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Special Assistant for Public Transportation

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-COTA/FTA-145

Submission Date: August 14, 2013 Time: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF MODULAR OFFICE FURNITURE AND PARTITIONS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY "

The Scope of Work for this project will be available on or after July 22, 2013 at COTA Office of the Special Assistant for Public Transportation, 1st Floor, Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, Isa Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

This is a federally funded project; proposers are required to comply with FTA Federal Contract Clauses as applicable.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Special Assistant for Public Transportation

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF INTEROPERABLE PORTABLE RADIOS ACCESSORIES AND BASE STATION

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CPA-RFP-009-13**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting cost proposal for the procurement and delivery of interoperable radios, accessories and base station for its Seaport Operation.

The location and scope of work package is available beginning June 24, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package: "Procurement and Delivery of Interoperable Portable Radios, Accessories, and Base Station-CPA-RFP-009-13." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted before 4:30 p.m. LOCAL TIME, July 29, 2013, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposals submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

Funding for this procurement is made possible by the 2011 Port Security Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ BENIGNO M. SABLON
Acting Chairman/Contracting Officer

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on Thursday, August 1, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes
 - Thursday, May 2, 2013 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Division Monthly Reports
- LIHTC Program - On-going Compliance Monitoring Briefing
- Update on USDA RD Guaranty and Plan of Action
- Update on CDBG Matters
- Update on NSP3
- Update on Program and Housing Division Matters
- Update on Mortgage & Credit Division Matters
 - Loans for Review and Approval
 - Requests for Garapan Annex Units

IV. FIELD OFFICE REPORTS

- Rota Field Office
- Tinian Field Office

V. FISCAL AFFAIRS

- Amended FY 2014 Budget
- Fiscal Division Audit Reports
- Unaudited Financial Statement as of June 30, 2013

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. OTHER MATTERS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP13-COTA/FTA-143

Submission Date: August 19, 2013 Time: 10:00 A.M.

"TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE AND VEHICLE TRACKING SYSTEM, A PROJECT UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA)"

The scope of work for this project will be available on or after July 22, 2013 at COTA Office of the Special Assistant for Public Transportation, 1st Floor, Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, Isa Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

This is a federally funded project; proposers are required to comply with FTA Federal Contract Clauses as applicable.

Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Vince Merfalen, Mobility Management and Transit Coordinator by fax to (670) 664-2313 or email to vince.merfalen@gov.mp no later than the close of business, August 08, 2013. Questions and responses shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Special Assistant for Public Transportation

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP13-COTA/FTA-144

Submission Date: August 19, 2013 Time: 10:00 A.M.

"SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN FOR THE CNMI, A PROJECT UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA)"

The scope of work for this project will be available on or after July 22, 2013 at COTA Office of the Special Assistant for Public Transportation, 1st Floor, Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, Isa Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

This is a federally funded project; proposers are required to comply with FTA Federal Contract Clauses as applicable.

Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Roy Rios, Community Planner by fax to (670) 664-2313 or email to roy.rios@gov.mp no later than the close of business, August 08, 2013. Questions and responses shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Special Assistant for Public Transportation

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

Life & Style

Writer gives tips to JKPL's young patrons

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Local writer Riza Oledan-Ramos was Wednesday's guest speaker in Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's "Dig Into Reading" summer program.

Oledan-Ramos, a nurse at the Commonwealth Health Center, gave writing tips to participants of the summer reading program and gave a preview of her next book, tentatively titled *Germ Stopper*.

The Philippines native shared with the mostly grade school students that her first book, *The Boy Who Dreamed To Be With His Parents On Saipan*, started out as a class project for her 6-year-old son, Ferdinand Emmanuel.

Her son's teacher at Mt. Carmel School told Oledan-Ramos that she should make a full-blown book out of it. She then sat down and wrote the story, with the help of illustrator Dane Guarda and Heather Lindsay, who served as editor.

Oledan-Ramos told participants to use their imagination and senses in writing stories. Some of her stories come by chance, much like the apocryphal tale of how Sir Isaac Newton discovered the principles of gravity when an apple fell and hit him on the head.

She invited a couple of participants to read her book with 9-year-old Maxine Rabago of San Vicente Elementary School.

While her first book was about her eldest son's journey from the Philippines to be with



MARK RABAGO

Local writer Riza Oledan-Ramos assists 9-year-old Maxine Rabago of San Vicente Elementary School read the book, *The Boy Who Dreamed To Be With His Parents On Saipan*.

his parents on Saipan, Oledan-Ramos said her second book is about her profession.

Germ Stopper was inspired by her day-to-day experience as a nurse, which requires her to wash her hands at least a hundred times a day.

Jzl Santonin, a 9-year-old from Oleai Elementary School, got to read the first few chapters of *Germ Stopper* last Wednesday.

JKPL Children's Library associate Erlinda Naputi thanked Oledan-Ramos for her participation in the summer reading program. She said JKPL will also invite another writer, Lino Olopai, to share his thoughts with library-goers next month.

JKPL's "Dig Into Reading"

summer program has been ongoing since 2006.

The program's sponsors are Joeten Ace Hardware; Aqua Resort Club, Chong's Corp., Coca-Coca of Saipan, D&Q, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Horizons, JET Holdings Co., McDonald's Saipan, Megabyte, National Office Supply, Pacific Islands Club, Subway, World Resort Saipan, IP&E, Taco Bell, Bridge Capital, JCT Enterprises, and Sandcastle.

The 2013 Summer Reading Program is open to young people, preschool through young adults, with programs, prize drawings, story hours, cultural activities, a reading club, and more.

For more information, visit JKPL during its regular hours, Tuesday to Friday, from 10am to 6pm, and Saturday from 9am to 4 pm. The library is closed on Sunday, Monday and holidays. Call the library at 235-7316 or 7322 or visit its website, www.cnmlibrary.com.

NBC to air Hillary Clinton miniseries

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—A Hillary Rodham Clinton miniseries timed to precede the 2016 presidential election is part of NBC's effort to create "event" programming that will draw viewers to the shrinking world of broadcast network TV, NBC's programming chief said Saturday.

"We need to be in the event business. I think you're going to hear that from every broadcast network," said Bob Greenblatt, NBC Entertainment chairman.

The four-hour miniseries "Hillary," starring Diane Lane as the former first lady and secretary of state, is one such bid for distinctive programming, he said.

The goal is to woo viewers who are increasingly being drawn away by cable TV's eye-catching, critically acclaimed fare like "Mad Men" and "Breaking Bad" and other media choices.

Although Clinton hasn't announced her intention to seek the Democratic nomination for president in 2016, Greenblatt spoke as if her candidacy is expected. "Hillary" could air before Clinton announces her decision, but the timing has yet to be determined, Greenblatt said.

He didn't address how such a miniseries, which will track Clinton's life and career from 1998 to the present, might affect the presidential contest.

Aniston says she, Theroux 'already feel married'

NEW YORK (AP)—Jennifer Aniston is dismissing rumors surrounding her upcoming wedding to Justin Theroux and is setting the record straight.

The 44-year old actress was promoting her new film, "We're the Millers," on Saturday when

'Glee' actor says Monteith was show's leader

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—"Glee" cast member Mike O'Malley says Cory Monteith, who died earlier this month of a drug overdose, was a leader on the show.

O'Malley plays Burt Hummel, dad to Chris Colfer's Kurt on the hit show about a high school glee club. He told the Television Critics Association on Saturday that Monteith was a welcoming colleague, a talented actor and a great guy.

O'Malley said Monteith, who played quarterback Finn Hudson, was the quarterback on the set as well.

The 31-year-old Monteith was found dead July 13 in a hotel room in Vancouver, British Columbia, and an autopsy

she told The Associated Press that she and Theroux are doing fine, and have not set a date, postponed their wedding, or argued about where to get married.

Aniston and Theroux began dating more than two years ago. They got engaged last summer,

but their lack of wedding plans has led to all sorts of speculation from a broken engagement to the couple not agreeing to when or where to tie the knot.

Aniston simply feels there's no urgency because as she puts it "we already feel married."

revealed he died of an overdose of heroin and alcohol.

O'Malley says the toughest scene he's had to do as an actor was opposite Monteith. On the show, Burt Hummel eventually married Finn's mother.

"I had to throw (his character) out of the house because of a slur that he used. It was remarkable to me when we were shooting that scene over and over again, the depth of emotion he was able to portray."

"Glee" is set to begin its fifth season on Sept. 26, a week later than originally scheduled, and a tribute episode to Monteith is planned.

O'Malley is also set to star in a father's role in the new NBC comedy, "Welcome to the Fam-

ily," scheduled to premiere in October, which follows the culture clash between a white and Latino family who are thrown together after their teenage children get engaged following an unexpected pregnancy.

"I'm here doing 'Welcome to the Family,' and we shoot one episode five days a week. But Burt is a very important role to me. It's been a great part and I've said to all those guys, that I'll work early in the morning, late at night, Saturday, Sunday, whatever I need to do to participate and continue to be on that show honoring Cory and his passing and that character. He is my stepson on that show. I certainly plan on being there."

Grandmother's empty house needs family's full attention

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My grandmother made the decision to move to an assisted-living facility two years ago. She left most of her belongings in her farmhouse, which has sat empty since then. Her health is fine, so she should be around for many years. It has already been decided that my dad will inherit the house, but he doesn't want to live there anytime soon because of the location. (It's way out in the country.)

I'm afraid the house is going to become uninhabitable if it sits for years without utilities or anyone taking care of it. Dad mows the grass, but that's about it, and all of Grandma's belongings are collecting dead flies. Nobody seems to care but me. Dad has three siblings, and between them there are nine grandchildren. How do I get my family to take care of Grandma's house?

CONSCIENTIOUS IN KANSAS CITY, KAN.



Dear Abby

DEAR CONSCIENTIOUS: Your father may be inheriting the house, but is he also inheriting all of the contents? If the answer is no, there should be a family discussion about the disposition of the furniture, clothing, linens and any possible heirloom items.

I agree with you that nothing good can happen to the house if no one is paying attention. It's an invitation to theft or vandalism. The house should be cleaned and dusted. The furniture should be covered with sheets to keep it as free of dust as possible. Someone should check the place at least once a month.

If no one else in the family is willing to step up to the plate and help out, because you are conscientious, it looks like you're elected. If it's too much for you, perhaps a caretaker could be hired to watch over, or possibly live in, the house.

DEAR ABBY: My son, "Joe," is 19, a high school graduate living at home with his dad and me until he leaves for college next year. He will be paying his tuition, and we are charging him a token rent (\$100/month) while he's not in school. He eats dinner with us most nights, and I usually do his laundry. He has a part-time job.

This has been working out fine except for one thing. Joe has a longtime girlfriend, and he has been spending some nights at her house. (She lives alone.) We haven't forbidden this because he's an adult, and I worry that if we say no he will move in with her. However, we are not comfortable with his spending nights there.

Part of our objection is we don't like the example it sets for his 13-year-old sister, but aside from that we don't think it's a good idea, although we can't say why. We know they're sexually active regardless of who sleeps where. Are we old-fashioned, or is it reasonable to ask him not to spend the whole night with his girlfriend?

OLD-SCHOOL PARENT

DEAR OLD SCHOOL: Because you have misgivings about your son spending the night at his girlfriend's, you and your husband should talk to him about it together. Although he is an adult, I agree that what's going on sends a wrong message to his younger sister who, unless you talk to her about your family values, will think this is acceptable.

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DEar Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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- Writing and reviewing reports, monitoring department operations, ordering inventory, and conducting operations/service reviews
- Regular ongoing monitoring of staff to ensure the adherence to pre-established policies and procedures and find ways to address problems and improve guest services
- Daily property inspections and interaction with everyone from employees to management to guests and other stakeholders

Qualifications:

- Minimum Education: Associate's Degree preferably in Tourism, Hotel & Restaurant or Business Management
- Minimum Experience: Two years of experience in a similar role or in a high volume hospitality environment at a managerial level in Rooms Reservations, Front Office or F&B operations
- Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends, and holidays
- Must possess strong leadership and communication skills. Organized, motivated, analytical and creative, as well as comfortable in directing others
- Must be proficient in various computer software applications and has a proven track record of meeting budgets, an understanding of P&L statements and cost/inventory control

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application Forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our Resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than August 31, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

**Kanoa Resort, Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.**

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

880 Duty Free is inviting qualified U.S. workers to fill the following positions:

Training Manager (01)

Job Duties: Trains and leads the team to execute and present the best displays in Kanoa and Fiesta Resort. In charge of organizing the layout and order of the retail store to facilitate the customer's shopping experience. Makes the decisions on what items stay on the floor and what placement ensures the best sales. Drive branding and business objectives/sales through excellent execution of visual merchandising and presentation. Utilize all company tools, visual talent, and knowledge to plan, map, and execute monthly floor sets incorporating appropriate store specific adaptations as necessary. Develop and implement brand appropriate solutions to address these unique needs. Continually analyze and respond to business/selling trends, assortment needs, and guest feedback--proactively adapt merchandising and presentations as needed. Ensure all signage and graphics are installed and maintained to company standards. Maintain two-way communication with appropriate partners regarding visual merchandising and store maintenance. Greet all guests with a genuine/authentic smile and personalized offer to help with their shopping needs when appropriate. Actively participate in store-related meetings, training sessions, and store visits. Receptive to feedback and coaching. Personally support each season's trends and the brand's forward direction as outlined in the company dress code policy. Maintain neat, orderly, and accessible, prop and sign storage areas. Other duties and responsibilities as needed.

Requirements: College degree preferred. Minimum of 2 years experience in visual merchandising, presentation, and training. Specialty retailer preferred. Must have excellent customer service skills. Strong demonstrated visual merchandising/presentation skills--detail oriented and self-motivated to execute to the highest standards. Innovative thinker/problem solver. Knowledgeable of current fashion and visual merchandising trends and able to effectively interpret/apply to our brand. Able to read and analyze retail reports and take action as necessary to adjust merchandising and presentation set ups. Proficient with basic computer programs (Word, Excel, Outlook), digital photography, and basic photo software. Strong interpersonal skills--written and verbal communication; listening and follow through. Able to articulate and explain ideas and concepts. Strong time management skills. Ability to set and achieve goals in a timely manner. Strong organizational and process planning skills. Attention to details. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

Salary will be paid and positions will be filled commensurate with qualification, work experience and ability to perform. Worksite locations are on Saipan and at all 880 Duty Free and Century Tours, Inc. offices. Applications may be obtained at the Century Tours, Inc. Office at the Kanoa Resort Ground Floor located on Beach Road in Susupe, Saipan while resumes may be emailed at camille.orallo@saipan.travel. All resumes and applications must be submitted to the Human Resources Department at the Century Tours, Inc. Front Office no later than Friday, August 01, 2013. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

*We are an Equal Employment Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.*

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Century Tours, Inc. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to fill the following positions:

Presenter & Trainer (01)

Job Duties: A key role for product selling by presenting products in variety of attractive and interesting ways, also should be qualified as a trainer for tour guide for promoting tour service. Make presentation to visitors as per company's presentation materials and requirements to make visitors experience the local culture and warm welcome. Work closely with management team to conduct training material either for tour guide or presentation related, including participant binders and handouts, signage, etc. Ensure appropriate supplies are on site for all events. Provide on site staffing logistics management and support staffing during training events. Summarize evaluation reports for trainings and providing outcomes to management team within on week of each training. Support administrative functions of training program and staff as needed (includes but not limited to : correspondence with training participants and clients, date entry, filing, photocopying, scheduling, booking travel, etc.) Maintain and update files (hard & electronic copies) pertaining to training programs and perform revisions as necessary, including creation of new presentations, handouts or case studies, keep training materials up to date. Project management and/or administrative support for ongoing efforts in the areas of marketing, materials production, etc. A carrier of company culture delivery and team building activities. Other duties as assigned.

Requirements: Bachelor's degree or equal degree. Previous presenter & trainer or relevant experience preferred. Positive interpersonal skills. High skill of presentation and sales ability. Good computer and typing skills are required. Excel and Word proficiency. Excellent listening and comprehension skills. Excellent customer service skills. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

Accounting Manager (01)

Job Duties: Establish financial status by developing and implementing systems for collecting, analyzing, verifying, and reporting financial information. Manage staff. Accomplishes accounting human resource objectives. Communicate job expectations; planning, monitoring, appraising, and reviewing job contributions. Plan and review compensation actions. Enforce policies and procedures. Achieve accounting operational objectives by contributing accounting information and recommendations to strategic plans and reviews. Prepare and complete action plans. Implement productivity, quality, and customer-service standards. Resolve problems, complete audits, identify trends. Determine system improvements and implement change. Meet accounting financial objectives. Prepare annual budget. Schedule expenditures. Analyze variances, initiate corrective actions. Confirm financial status by monitoring revenue and expenses. Coordinate the collection, consolidation, and evaluation of financial data. Prepare special reports. Maintain accounting controls by establishing a chart of accounts; defining accounting policies and procedures. Guide other departments by researching and interpreting accounting policy. Apply observations and recommendations to operational issues. Maintain financial security by establishing internal controls. Avoid legal challenges by understanding current and proposed legislation. Enforce accounting regulations and recommend new procedures. Protect organization's value by keeping information confidential. Updates job knowledge by participating in educational opportunities. Participate in professional organizations. Accomplishes accounting and organization mission by completing related results as needed.

Requirements: College degree with financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software. Excellent customer service skills. Knowledge of standard office equipments. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

Front Desk (02)

Job Duties: Interact with guests and ensure they have a great experience during their stay. Responsible for responding to guest calls or inquiries about room reservations, to provide information and reserve rooms for guests. Answer incoming calls and assist with reservations, confirmations, room need requests, and questions. Explain products, service and other info as requested. Sell, process and enter and confirm room reservations using selling techniques and strategies. Greet guests warmly and perform registration procedures. Provide guests with appropriate room assignments, room keys, directions to the rooms, while up-selling when appropriate. Verify payment for stay including incidental costs by obtaining credit information. Assist guests with issues and complaints, with empathy and a focus on guest satisfaction, use supervisor support when necessary. Answer incoming calls in a timely manner with appropriate greeting. Maintain accurate logs of mail, packages, parcels or other items for guest delivery. Post charges to guest accounts as designated. Facilitate guest departures providing accurate statements and ensuring guest satisfaction and collecting all payments due. Other duties as assigned.

Requirements: High school diploma or equivalent. Previous guest service and reservations experience preferred. Positive interpersonal skills required. Good computer and typing skills are required. Excel and Word proficiency desired. Previous experience preferred. Excellent listening and comprehension skills required. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

IT Network Technician (01)

Job Duties: Daily IT system and server maintaining, problem solving to ensure daily IT system working smoothly. Monitor and provide solution for network security. Provide on-going communication with Hong Kong, Shanghai, Beijing and other satellite offices and local departments regarding server problem or other issues when needed. Maintain the enterprise's IT security documents (policies, standards, guidelines and procedures). Perform regular security awareness/IT knowledge for all employees to ensure consistently high levels of compliance with enterprise security documents. Provide orientation to new users of existing technology. Maintain log and/or list of required repairs and maintenance when cost occurs or same problem comes often. Provide network access, email account set up, PC preparation, etc. for new employee before joining. Operate as technician during tour presentation, such as light adjusting, music controlling, etc. Other duties as assigned.

Requirements: At least 4 years Bachelor degree in computer science or relevant field. At least 2 years prior experience required, both on IT industry and Exhibition industry. Be familiar with hardware and software, network operating system/administration/installation, Email and internet programs, computer viruses and security. Flexibility to perform assigned tasks independently or as part of a work team. Sense of urgency. Ability to manage multiple priorities and meet frequent short timeline goals and deadlines. Knowledge of ERP is preferred. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

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Rays' Archer throws 2-hitter, stops Yankees, 1-0



NEW YORK
(AP)—Chris

Archer threw a two-hitter for his second shutout in three starts, outpitching Ivan Nova and leading the Tampa Bay Rays to a 1-0 victory over the New York Yankees on Saturday.

Kelly Johnson had an RBI single off Nova (4-4) in the sixth to help the AL East-leading Rays improve to 24-5 since June 23, when they were in last place.

Tampa Bay manager Joe Maddon said before the game Archer (6-3) embraces the big moments, and he sure did once again at Yankee Stadium.

The 24-year-old rookie with a Captain America lunchbox in his locker never threw more than 14 pitches in an inning and needed just 97 overall - 67 for strikes - for his second career complete game.

Archer gave up a single to Lyle Overbay with one out in the fifth and a ground-rule double to Brett Gardner in the sixth for New York's only hits in its sixth loss in nine games since the All-Star break.

Archer did not walk a batter and struck out six. He got to finish what he started, catching Ichiro Suzuki's comebacker and tossing to first for the final out.

Acquired from the Chicago Cubs before the 2011 season in a deal for Matt Garza, Archer enjoyed his best month as a major leaguer. He shut out Houston with a five-hitter on July 14 and his ERA for July is 0.73, an AL record for rookies. The Angels' Bob Lee had an 0.76 ERA in 1964.

Archer outpitched Nova in the Bronx for the second time this season. Last month, Archer won by holding the Yankees to one run over six innings.

Derek Jeter again was absent from the lineup and the Yankees' newest hope to provide power—Alfonso Soriano—was hitless in three at-bats, leaving him 0 for 8 since returning to New York.

Jeter was eligible to come off the disabled list Saturday but instead played a simulated game at a location that Yankees would not disclose.

A small flock of pigeons planted themselves at shortstop in the top of the fifth and didn't leave the infield until the eighth. Could they have been looking for Jeter, too?

With the captain out and Alex Rodriguez, on his 38th birthday, rehabbing his quadriceps strain at the Yankees minor league complex in Tampa, Fla., alongside other injured stars, including Curtis Granderson, the Yankees' bats were again dormant.

The Yankees have not homered in nine straight games, their longest streak since going 10 in a row in 1984.

Nova matched Archer with a mixture of fastballs that reached 96 mph and a biting curveball that had the Rays



Tampa Bay Rays' Chris Archer delivers a pitch during the first inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees Saturday, July 27, 2013, in New York.

swinging at dirt.

He struck out the side in the fourth after Wil Myers led off with a double and James Loney followed with a walk.

Nova finished off the fifth with strikeouts of out Desmond Jennings and Longoria. Longoria chased a breaking pitch down and away and smacked the barrel of his bat in frustration.

The walks finally hurt Nova in the sixth. His free pass to Matt Joyce with two outs put runners on first and second and extended the inning to allow Kelly Johnson a chance to bat.

Johnson then got enough of a 95 mph fastball to bloop it out into center field to drive in Ben Zobrist for a 1-0 lead. Zobrist had reached on a fielder's choice and stole second base.

Astros 8, Blue Jays 6

In Toronto, Chris Carter hit a three-run home run, Justin Maxwell and Matt Dominguez added solo shots as Houston snapped a three-game losing streak.

Dallas Keuchel (5-5) pitched a season-high 7 1-3 innings to end a six-start winless skid. He allowed six runs and 10 hits, walked one and struck out six for his first victory since June 16.

Jose Veras got the final five outs for his 19th save in 22 chances.

The Astros, who had lost 21 of their previous 26, won for just the second time since July 12.

All three homers came off Josh Johnson (1-7), who lost his career-worst fifth straight start.

Athletics 3, Angels 1

In Oakland, California, Derek

Norris had a pinch-hit two-run

home run in the bottom of the seventh inning to lead Oakland to its second straight win and fifth in the last seven games.

Jed Lowrie also drove in a run for the A's and Coco Crisp added two hits.

Tommy Milone (9-8) allowed four hits over seven innings, allowing one run. He walked four and struck out six.

Josh Hamilton hit a booming home run for the Angels, who lost their second straight and five of seven overall.

Grant Richards, making his first start since April 30, allowed three hits in five scoreless innings. Scott Downs (2-3) entered the game in the seventh after Dane De La Rosa got Chris Young to hit into a fielder's choice. The A's countered with Norris, who promptly delivered his first career pinch hit.

Twins 4, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Brian Dozier and Justin Morneau homered, Samuel Deduno pitched seven scoreless innings as Minnesota got its fifth shutout of the season.

The Twins have won four of their last six games and are 6-3 since the All Star break.

Deduno (7-4) allowed three hits, walked three and tied his season high with six strikeouts. He has thrown seven innings in each of his last three starts, winning all three.

Brad Miller and Kyle Seager each had two hits for Seattle, which has lost three of four.

Aaron Harang (5-9) threw 105 pitches in five innings, the ninth time in 17 starts he has gone five innings or less. Harang gave up one run on three hits in five innings, struck out five and walked two.

Nationals 4, Mets 1

In Washington, Bryce Harper, Ian Desmond and Denard Span all homered, powering the Washington Nationals to a win over the New York Mets.

Dan Haren (5-11) pitched seven innings for his first win since May 9, allowing one run and three hits.

Desmond and Span hit back-to-back homers against Dillon Gee (7-8) in the second inning and Harper followed with a two-run drive in the third.

Harper returned to the starting lineup after being limited to pinch-hitting duty in the second game of Friday's doubleheader. The All-Star outfielder aggravated his left knee while diving for a ball in the opener.

Braves 2, Cardinals 0

In Atlanta, Andrelton Simmons hit a two-run double in the eighth inning as Atlanta, boosted by Julio Teheran's sharp outing, beat St. Louis in a matchup of NL division leaders.

Teheran allowed two hits in seven innings, striking out six and walking one.

Simmons' bases-loaded, two-out double came on a 99 mph fastball from Trevor Rosenthal.

Randy Choate (1-1) walked Freddie Freeman to open the eighth. Evan Gattis struck out and Brian McCann singled. Rosenthal relieved and struck out Dan Uggla before walking Chris Johnson to load the bases.

Luis Avilan (3-0) pitched a perfect eighth and Craig Kimbrel recorded three outs to earn his 30th save.

Cardinals starter Joe Kelly pitched 6 1-3 scoreless innings, allowing seven hits and walking three.

Pirates 7, Marlins 4

In Miami, Michael McKenry had a career-best four hits and drove in two runs and Neil Walker and Garrett Jones each added two RBIs in Pittsburgh's victory over Miami.

McKenry, who came into the night batting .191, raised his average 26 points with a double and three singles. Walker added three hits for the Pirates, the NL wild-card leaders who set the tone with three first-inning runs against Miami's Tom Koehler (2-6).

Charlie Morton (3-2) allowed a season-high nine hits in five innings, finding a way to win consecutive starts for the first time since May 2011. Mark Melancon worked the ninth for his fourth save.

Koehler gave up nine hits and five runs in five innings.

Padres 12, Diamondbacks 3

In Phoenix, Andrew Cashner threw six solid innings and hit his first career home run to help lead San Diego over Arizona.

Chris Denorfia and Chase Headley added back-to-back home runs, Yonder Alonso drove in four runs and Carlos Quentin had three RBIs for the Padres, who have won two of their last three and four of six.

Cashner (7-5) allowed three runs on four hits, walked five and struck out five for his second straight win, both coming during a 10-game road trip.

Paul Goldschmidt and Miguel Montero homered for the Diamondbacks, who had their two-game winning streak snapped.

San Diego managed only three hits off Arizona starter Tyler Skaggs (2-3), but took advantage of the rookie left-hand-

er's lack of control to open an 8-1 lead after four innings.

Cubs 1, Giants 0

In San Francisco, Nate Schierholtz homered off former teammate Sergio Romo with one out in the ninth inning to lift Chicago over San Francisco.

Schierholtz worked a full count off Romo (3-6) before hitting a towering blast into the right field stands to hand Romo his second loss in as many games.

Starlin Castro added two hits for Chicago, which is 18-13 in its last 31 games.

Madison Bumgarner pitched eight shutout innings for San Francisco but left without a decision. The World Series champs have lost six of seven and are a season-high 11 games under .500.

Pedro Strop (1-0) pitched one inning for the win and Kevin Gregg worked the ninth for his 21st save to complete the five-hitter.

Dodgers 4, Reds 1

In Los Angeles, Hyun-Jin Ryu gave up two hits over seven innings and retired his last 13 batters. Skip Schumaker hit a tie-breaking two-run homer as Los Angeles beat Cincinnati.

Ryu (9-3) had nine strikeouts in a span of 13 batters. Cincinnati's run came on a homer by Jay Bruce in the second.

The Dodgers increased their NL West lead to 1 1/2 games over Arizona.

Ryu faced South Korean countryman Shin-Soo Choo for the first time in the major leagues. The Reds' center fielder walked, grounded out to first base and struck out.

Kenley Jansen got the last three outs for his 14th save.

Bronson Arroyo (9-8) gave up three runs and eight hits in 5 1-3 innings.

Brewers 7, Rockies 5

In Denver, Carlos Gomez had two hits and three of Milwaukee's five stolen bases, Juan Francisco and Jonathan Lucroy homered as the Brewers held on to beat Colorado on a rainy night.

Milwaukee's Jean Segura had two hits and two RBIs before leaving with tightness in his right forearm.

Troy Tulowitzki had a home run among his three hits and Wilin Rosario also went deep for the Rockies.

The Brewers were three outs from winning when the rain picked up and caused a 1-hour, 45-minute delay in the middle of the ninth inning. Jim Henderson then got the last three outs for his 12th save.

It made a winner out of Tom Gorzelanny (2-4), who allowed four runs and six hits in 5 1-3 innings.

Collin McHugh (0-2), vying to make a case to be the Rockies' No. 5 starter, gave up six runs and nine hits in five innings.

Snedeker takes Canadian Open lead

CANADIAN OPEN OAKVILLE, Ontario (AP)—Brandt Snedeker was on seventh tee when he noticed something wasn't quite right.

He couldn't find Hunter Mahan's name at the top of the Canadian Open leaderboard.

"I looked at my caddie, and I go, 'What's going on?'" Snedeker said. "He goes, 'I think Hunter had to leave because (his wife) went into labor.'"

His caddie was right.

Mahan, the second-round leader at 13 under, withdrew Saturday to rush home to Dallas for the birth of his first child Saturday, leaving a big opening for Snedeker.

"Kind of left the tournament wide open," Snedeker said. "Hunter was going to be hard to catch because he was playing so good. The way he drives the golf ball on this golf course, he was going to play really well on the weekend. For me to catch him, I knew I was going to have to shoot something really low."

Snedeker had a 9-under 63 at rainy Glen Abbey to take the lead after the third round. He won the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am in February for his fifth PGA Tour victory.

"I know how to handle it and I know what to expect tomorrow especially on a golf course like this," Snedeker said. "I'm not too concerned about my number right now. I know what I have to do tomorrow."

The 2012 FedExCup champion had nine birdies in a bogey-free round, playing the front nine in 6-under 29.

"You always feel like you're exactly one swing away from hitting something off the planet or something like that," Snedeker said. "I felt like I managed my game really well today."

Mahan withdrew before he was scheduled to tee off Saturday in the round that was delayed 80 minutes because of lightning.

"I received exciting news a short time ago that my wife Kandi has gone into labor with our first child," Mahan said in a statement. "Kandi and I are thrilled about the addition to the Mahan family and we look forward to returning to the RBC Canadian Open in the coming years."

Sweden's David Lingmerth was a stroke back after a 65, and Matt Kuchar and Jason Bohn



Brandt Snedeker, of the United States, blasts out of the bunker on the eighth hole during the second round at the Canadian Open golf tournament at Glen Abbey in Oakville, Ontario, on Friday, July 26, 2013.

AP

were 12 under. Kuchar had a 64, and Bohn shot 66.

"The birth of a child is a truly magical, special thing. You may get it once in your lifetime. It just doesn't happen that often," Kuchar said. "Hunter right now is playing some of the best golf

in the world. It kind of gives the rest of us a chance with him not in the field."

Dustin Johnson also shot 63, good for a tie for fifth at 11 under with John Merrick (72), Greg Owen (67), Charley Hoffman (67) and Kyle Stanley (66).

Merrick, two strokes behind Mahan on Friday after matching the course record with a second-round 62, played alone in the third round after Mahan withdrew. Merrick declined to play off alongside a non-scoring marker. David Hearn was the top Ca-

nadian, shooting a 68 to reach 5 under. He made the cut Friday by birdieing his final three holes.

"I felt good yesterday finishing the way I did," Hearn said. "I didn't play my best getting to the weekend but it's a pretty tight leaderboard."

Mike Weir was 3 under after a 73.

"It was kind of adventurous and not very profitable at all," Weir said. "Didn't make anything again and struggled a little bit at times. Just never seemed to get in the flow of the round."

Suns trade Scola to Pacers in 3-player deal



PHOENIX (AP)—The Indiana Pacers have bolstered their front-line depth with the acquisition of Luis Scola from the Phoenix Suns.

The Pacers sent forward Gerald Green, center Miles Plumlee and a lottery-protected first-round draft pick to the rebuilding Suns.

Scola, a 6-foot-9 forward from Argentina, played his first five NBA seasons with the Houston Rockets before coming to Phoenix a year ago when the Suns submitted the winning bid under the league's amnesty rule. He appeared in all 82 games for the Suns, averaging 12.8 points and 6.6 rebounds. It was the fifth time in his career that he's played in all games.

Scola, who has averaged 14.2 points and 7.5 rebounds in his career, joins a team that figures to contend in the Eastern Conference after he toiled for a season with a Suns squad that compiled the worst record in the Western Conference and second-worst in the franchise's history.

The 6-foot-8 Green has played for six teams since coming to the NBA in 2005. Signed as a free agent by Indiana in 2012, he appeared in 60 games, averaging seven points per contest. The 6-11 Plumlee was selected in the first round by the Pacers out of Duke last year, the 26th selection overall, but appeared in only 14 games for the deep, talented Indiana squad.

Not surprisingly, Scola said

he was "very, very excited to play for the Pacers."

"They are one of the top three teams in the NBA with a good shot to win a championship," Scola said in a Pacers news release announcing the Saturday trade. "I think it's a great team and this is a great opportunity. I can't wait."

Hall of Famer Larry Bird, the Pacers' president of basketball operations, said Scola adds veteran experience to the Indiana bench.

"He has NBA experience, international experience and is the type of player that will fit nicely on our roster," Bird said.

Since returning to the Pacers in late June after taking a leave of absence for health reasons,

Bird has re-signed power forward David West, then spent most of his time strengthening the Pacers bench.

When free agency opened, he convinced point guard C.J. Watson to sign. He also has signed backup swingman Chris Copeland and point guard Donald Sloan, and now he's added a solid scorer to back up West. Bird also selected Arizona forward Solomon Hill in the draft.

He's been able to make the moves without going over the NBA's luxury tax threshold—something Bird has said he will not do.

The price for Scola wasn't particularly high, from Indiana's perspective.

Pacers fans have grumbled constantly about the lack of productivity from Green, who still has two years and \$7 million left on the free agent deal he signed last season, and Plumlee spent much of his rookie playing time with the Fort Wayne Mad Ants of the NBA D-League.

Bird believes that a better bench will help the Pacers continue to make deep runs in the playoffs, and possibly even get past two-time NBA champion Miami in the Eastern Conference. The Heat beat Indiana

4-2 in the second round of the 2012 playoffs and needed to win Game 7 to finally fend off Indiana in the Eastern Conference finals this year.

New Suns general manager Ryan McDonough called Plumlee "one of the best players" in this year's Summer League, where the big center averaged 10 points, 9.5 rebounds and three blocked shots. McDonough also said that Green will add athleticism and scoring ability to what is designed to be an up-tempo style under new Phoenix coach Jeff Hornacek.

Phoenix is undergoing a roster overhaul in what could be a lengthy rebuilding process.

"The trade is consistent with our stated plan to continue to acquire young assets," said Lon Babby, the Suns' president of basketball operations. "With this trade, we now have the potential of three first-round picks in the 2014 draft and five first-round picks in the next two drafts."

Plumlee gives the team a second young center. Phoenix used the fifth overall pick in this year's draft to select Maryland's Alex Len, a 7-foot Ukrainian who is recovering from right ankle surgery.

Eagles WR Maclin tears ACL, could miss season

NFL (AP)—Eagles wide receiver Jeremy Maclin tore the ACL in his right knee during practice Saturday and could miss the season.

Maclin went down at the end of a non-contact drill and appeared to be in pain while he was on the ground for several minutes. He was helped onto the cart and needed assistance getting off it and going into the

team's practice facility.

"Appreciate all the love and support Twitter fam....sad day but I have setbacks my entire life. Minor setback for a MAJOR comeback! (hash)bird-gang," he wrote on Twitter.

Philadelphia is in its second full practice under new coach Chip Kelly. The first practice with pads is Sunday.

The Eagles signed wide receiver David Ball to the 90-

man roster. The 29-year-old Ball played for Kelly at New Hampshire, and broke Jerry Rice's Division I-AA record for touchdown receptions. Ball spent time in training camp with Chicago and the New York Jets in 2007-08.

Maclin is headed into his fifth season with the Eagles. He led the team with 69 catches for 857 yards and seven touchdowns last season, and the former first-

round pick is in the final year of his rookie contract.

Two-time Pro Bowl wide receiver DeSean Jackson is Philadelphia's other starter. The team has veterans Jason Avant and Riley Cooper, along with several younger wideouts in camp.

Maclin has averaged 64 catches, 863 yards and six TDs in his first four seasons. His best year was in 2011 when he had 70 receptions for 964 yards and 10 TDs.

Cornered man: Alex Rodriguez turns 38



NEW YORK
(AP—Alex Rodriguez's corner locker in the New York Yankees' clubhouse is filled with four cardboard boxes of bats, a dozen jerseys, a dangling athletic supporter, two baseball caps and four books.

Rodriguez, who turned 38 Saturday, is something of a cornered man himself these days. The Yankees consider him a major annoyance, referring to him as Mr. Rodriguez three times in a recent news release.

That tension, however, pales when compared to what's going on with Major League Baseball. Any time now, Rodriguez is expected to be hit with a lengthy penalty that could put him out of baseball indefinitely or perhaps even permanently.

And MLB's investigation to possible ties between Rodriguez and a Florida clinic accused of distributing banned performance-enhancing drugs isn't even the primary source of the deteriorating relation-

ship. The Yankees owe him just under \$95 million through 2017, and he's missed the entire season following hip surgery in January.

After a week's worth of high drama, second-guessing and radio interviews, it seems Rodriguez is about to be lumped with Yankees who sort of just didn't fit, failed or just faded away—the Dave Winfield, Kevin Brown, Randy Johnson and Carl Pavano wing of infamy rather than the Monument Park honor roll of Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio and Yogi Berra.

On the day he arrived in February 2004 after the big trade with Texas, the sign board outside old Yankee Stadium proclaimed: "A Rod, Welcome to NY."

Now the message from the Yankees is pretty much: We don't want to see you ever again.

During a conference call with management to discuss treatment of his thigh injury, A-Rod insisted on having one

of his lawyers on the phone, later saying he "just want to make sure that everything is documented properly."

Following his third straight postseason flameout, New York appears to be in no hurry for A-Rod to return. Each day's delay means that much more of his \$153,005 daily salary is reimbursed by insurance.

For much of his career, Rodriguez has bristled at playing a supporting role to Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter, wondering why his teammate receives adulation and he is met with a mixture of antipathy and scorn.

Jeter strained a quadriceps and was allowed to rehabilitate with the major league team.

Rodriguez strained a quadriceps and was sent to the minor league camp in Tampa, Fla., as if he had been a disruptive student dispatched to the principal's office for a timeout.

Wherever he goes, contretemps unfold.

"It's the nature of the business," Yankees first baseman

Mark Teixeira said. "Show business, right?"

This was supposed to be the best time of Rodriguez's career, when he made his mark in history. Fifth on the career list with 647 home runs, he was set to pass Willie Mays (660), Babe Ruth (714), Hank Aaron (755) and Barry Bonds (762) and become the all-time leader.

Only Ruth had hit more home runs than Rodriguez before turning 38.

But his life has seemed to unravel since Dec. 13, 2007, when his record \$275 million, 10-year contract was finalized—on the same day George Mitchell issued his report on performance-enhancing drugs in baseball.

He helped the Yankees win the 2009 World Series, shaking his image as an automatic October out by hitting .365 in the postseason with six homers and 18 RBIs. But in the time that matters most for the Yankees, he has only six postseason RBIs in 75 at-bats since as his body has fractured with

alarming frequency.

He's made six trips to the disabled list in six seasons for a strained right quadriceps (2008), right hip surgery (2009), a strained left calf (2010), right knee surgery (2011), a broken left hand (2012) and left hip surgery (2013).

All the while he kept generating tabloid headlines for his divorce; for dating Madonna, Kate Hudson, Cameron Diaz and Torrie Wilson; for participating in high-stakes celebrity poker games; for the \$30 million sale of his Miami house; for buying a Manhattan condominium that came with tax abatement.

"Everyone goes through personal issues. Mine are on the front page of the papers," he said five years ago. "I'm fine with it."

He was an example once, a three-time AL MVP praised for a work ethic that included day-break spring-training sessions with coaches when most teammates were still asleep. But Rodriguez's reputation has never been the same since just before spring training in 2009, when he admitted using performance-enhancing drugs while he was with the Texas Rangers from 2001-03.

Now he is derided in headlines as "A-Roid."

"I'm very sorry and deeply regretful," he said then, adding he had been "young and stupid."

Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig condemned his behavior, saying steroids users had "shamed the game."

Rodriguez agreed to work for the Taylor Hooton Foundation to combat steroids. But the controversies just kept on coming.

He was investigated by MLB for ties to Anthony Galea, the Canadian doctor who pleaded guilty two years ago to a federal charge of bringing unapproved drugs into the United States from Canada. And then Miami New Times reported in January this year that his name was listed in records of Biogenesis of America, sparking the MLB investigation that led to a 65-game suspension for Milwaukee outfielder Ryan Braun, the 2011 NL MVP.

A-Rod's 14 All-Star appearances, his 1996 AL batting title, his two Gold Gloves seem to have little stature in people's minds.

"In the vast hall of baseball history, Rodriguez is over there in the Denny McLain Wing: great talent overshadowed by great mistakes of great variety. Of course maybe this is unfair—to McLain," ESPN and TBS broadcaster Keith Olbermann said. "MLB will surely act before the latest rehab is over to keep the Yankees from having to put him on the field at the height of a speculative frenzy, and after that he will be contagion personified."

PIC

From Page 28

out-hustled its foe to extend its winning run. The fourth canto began with PIC on top by 8, 55-47, but a quick 4-0 run in less than 30 seconds of that period sliced the lead to four. Ham Hambros then connected on a putback off Darwin Barbo's missed free throws, while James Abuy converted a triple to halt KFC's short rally, 60-51.

Down, but definitely not out, KFC remained afloat in the ensuing plays until PIC broke its foe's back, winning the series of battle for loose balls and offensive rebounds. At about the four-and-a-half-minute mark of the fourth canto, PIC gained five straight possessions, as it chased the ball after several missed shots. KFC was simply a step or two in picking up the leather and after PIC got another loose ball, a frustrated Lerio Pagarao

was called for a hacking foul on Ernest Duenas. Duenas split his charities, upping PIC's lead to 6, 67-61. Duenas' free throw sparked a short 6-0 PIC rally, and KFC never recovered, as it faced a 72-61 deficit, entering the final two minutes of the match.

KFC repeatedly mounted a comeback after PIC gained control of the match midway in the third canto, but the former could not find the perfect combination of players to complete the recovery. KFC has several known scorers on its roster with Ivan Devero, Angelo Fernando, Jaymark De Guzman, and Eugene Manglona joining Pagarao on the team. However, they could not get their acts together and some had to be recalled back to the bench just when they started to heat up to give their teammates playing time.

PIC had a better rotation with Abuy coming off the bench providing rally-stopping baskets, and Hambros sneaking in

for a couple of undergoal stabs. Starters Darwin Barbo and Bart Demapan gave PIC strong presence in the paint, while young guns Nevin and Nicko Salem, and Ernest Duenas kept up with KFC players on fastbreak plays.

Mobil 90, San Roque 83
Joining PIC in second place in the team standings is Mobil, which pulled off a come-from-behind win versus San Roque (1-3).

Freddie Pelisamen recorded his second straight 30-plus point output, firing 38 markers against San Roque. Pelisamen, who had 37 markers in their 103-80 win over KFC, nailed 18 points in the fourth quarter and made Mobil's last 7 markers to lift his team to the 7-point victory.

Mobil collected 31 points against the 18 of San Roque to wipe out the latter's 65-59 lead at the end of the third quarter.

Marvin Rabauliman and Jun Estolas also helped out in the victory, adding 18 and 17

points, respectively. Rabauliman had 6 points in the fourth canto, while Estolas logged 13 markers in the first half to keep Mobil in the game.

First Game

Mobil 90 — Pelisamen 38, Rabauliman 18, Estolas 17, Ruluk 9, Peredo 4, Failauga 2.

San Roque 83 — De Leon Guerrero 20, Vertudez 16, Metran 16, Lorio 13, Aquino 10, Dela Cruz 6.

Scoring by quarters: 19-19, 35-44, 59-65, 90-83.

Second Game

Pacific Islands Club 75 — Demapan 24, Abuy 16, Barbo 13, Hambros 8, Duenas 7, Ne. Salem, Bartolo 2.

KFC/Taco Bell 64 — Pagarao 20, Devero 11, Francisco 6, Achas 6, Fernando 5, Manglona 4, De Guzman 4, Abuel 4, Camacho 4.

Scoring by quarters: 11-12, 31-30, 55-47, 75-64.

8 TEAMS

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the Top 4 teams after the elimination round advancing to the playoffs. Playoff format will be determined by league officials at the end of the regular season.

Next month's opening game

will have the Rockies challenging the Giants at 10am, while two more matches are set for the kick-off day. The Dodgers will take on the Braves in the second match at 12:30am, while the Reds will collide with the Yankees in the last game at 3pm.

The two remaining teams

will have their debuts on Aug. 12 with the Pirates facing the Cardinals at the 4:30pm match. Then at 7pm, the Giants will battle the Dodgers.

Meanwhile, the series of clinic for players participating in the Triple A league resume today at 4pm. The clinic started last July 22 and took a three-day break to

give way to the Junior and Senior League players' community work. After the players clinic, SBLI will also hold coaches and umpires seminars.

SBLI would like to thank DYS for supporting SBLI's youth program.

For more information, contact Rogolifoi at 285-3966.

ADODO

From Page 28

Jun Patawaran's layup. Herbert Maranan was held scoreless after knocking in 7 points in the first frame.

Maranan continued to struggle in the second half, making only on free throw in the third period. Fortunately for Wushin, Olan Tengco stepped up in the third period, contributing 7 points and three other players added at least 4 points apiece to

cut the deficit to 4, 42-46. Adobo then widened the gap anew in the fourth canto, as it saved its best for last, drilling 27 points in the payoff period. Shane Deleon Guerrero and Lester Vertudez teamed up in the breakaway, tallying 8 points apiece.

Angelo Fernando, who missed the first three periods of the match, also nailed 8 points in the fourth canto for Wushin, which drew 10 markers from Lansang.

Meanwhile, Yuichiro broke into the win column after a 0-2 start, as Five O Restaurant was forced to forfeit the second

game set for last Friday due to lack of players. Five O, which fell to a 1-2 record, had only four players on the court when the buzzer signaling the start of the game sounded.

Adobo 71 — Vertudez 19, Saturno 14, Deleon Guerrero 14, Javier 8, Dela Cruz 8, Yap 4.

Wushin/Express 56 — Maranan 14, Lansang 10, Tibayan 9, Fernando 8, Tengco 7, Patawaran 4, Patawaran 4, Ebuen 3.

Scoring by quarters: 12-14, 30-23, 46-42, 71-56.

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2013 SEDA League Awardees

PHOTO BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



High-in winners in the 2012 Saipan Electronic Darts Association League pose with their trophies during the awards ceremony held yesterday at the Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club.



High-out winners pose for a group photo after getting their award.



Top Gun awardees pose with their trophies.



The MVPs in the various divisions receive medals and plaques.



Mr. SEDA's Tony Tomokane, seen here with his daughter, gets an award for competing in four divisions in the league.



Three pioneers in the SEDA league get their trophies.



Representatives of Oceanside NMC Proa receive the sportsmanship award in the inter-government division.



Naked Fish Ta Chagi players show their sportsmanship award in the Tuesday B division.



Oceanside Sparkz players receive the sportsmanship award in the Kingfisher C division.



Sand Juvy Refalauans players pose with their sportsmanship trophies in the Thursday B Flame Three division.



**Rays' Archer
throws 2-hitter,
stops Yankees,
1-0**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

PIC bags third straight victory



Pacific Islands Club's Ernest Duenas pulls up for a shot against three KFC/Taco Bell defenders during their game in the Emon Lodge caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club is on a roll, following a 75-63 win against KFC/Taco Bell in the second game in the Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup last Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The victory was PIC's third in a row, making it the second hottest squad in the league, behind unbeaten AXE Proa (6-0). The San Antonio-based team's two straight victories were against Mobil, 109-83, and the Blazers, 71-63. PIC, which is in second place in the team standings with its 4-2 slate, split its first two assignments, bowing to AXE Proa in its debut, 56-70, before beating San Roque, 86-76.

Against KFC (3-3), PIC played steady in the fourth quarter and
See PIC on Page 26

Adobo still unscathed in DL Corp. caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Adobo kept its immaculate record in the 2013 DL Corporation Invitational Basketball League, following a 71-56 win against Wushin Express/Kixx Engine Oil last Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Adobo played better in the second and fourth quarter to notch its fourth win in as many

games, while Wushin remained winless after three matches.

Down by a deuce after the first period, 12-14, Adobo held Wushin to three field goals in the second quarter to grab the upper hand at halftime, 30-23. Adobo doubled up Wushin in the second period, 18-9, with James Dela Cruz leading the former's offense, dropping all his 8 points in that canto. Wushin's 9 points came off Erlan Lansang's two baskets and

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8 teams vie for Triple A baseball title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

 The 2nd Annual Triple A Youth Baseball League will kick off next month at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield with eight teams battling for the championship.

Organized by Saipan Baseball League Inc., through the help of the Division of Youth Services, the league for U18 players will open on Aug. 10 and will feature last season's finalists the Rockies of manager Syl Ada, Joey dela Cruz's Giants, Bernard Cabrera's Dodgers, Mike Pangelinan's Braves, Pat Tenorio's Reds, Chel Castro's Yan-



SAIPAN TRIBUNE
Dodgers' Joseph Atalig unloads a pitch during a game in last year's Triple A Championship Youth Summer Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

kees, Jesse Yamagishi's Pirates, and Greg Camacho's Cardinals. The Rockies lost to the Orioles (who changed their name to Pirates this year) in the finals of the inaugural tournament in October last year, 7-8.

SBLI official and league coordinator Tony Rogolifo said games in this year's Triple A league will be played four times a week and two matches are set every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Games on weekdays are scheduled for 4:30pm and 7pm, while Saturday's first match will start at 9:30am at the second at 12:30pm. Rogolifo added that the regular season will have a double-round robin format with

See 8 TEAMS on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mike Saturno, seen here driving against a Gualo Rai defender in a previous league at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court, scored 14 points in their 71-56 win over Wushin in the DL Corp. caging last Friday.